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## USFK commander visits 7 AF, SPACEFOR-KOR

#### From compiled staff reports Seventh Air Force Public Affairs

**OSAN AIR BASE, Republic of Korea** -- U.S. Army Gen. Xavier T. Brunson, United Nations Command, Combined Forces Command and United States Forces Korea commander, visited Osan Air Base, Republic of Korea, Jan. 8, 2025.

Brunson met with U.S. and Republic of Korea Air Force leaders to gain a better understanding of the Combined Air Component Command and U.S. Space Forces Korea missions. He visited the 36th Fighter Generations Squadron, 607th Air Operations Center, and SPACEFOR-K, held meetings the 51st Fighter Wing, Seventh Air Force, and SPACEFOR-K commanders, and received briefings on the CACC's role and the SPACEFOR-K mission.

Brunson thanked personnel for their hard work in defense of both nations and stressed the importance of preparing for a multi-domain conflict. The visit provided an opportunity for Brunson to improve his understanding of the units' capabilities and missions.

The engagement highlighted the strong alliance between the U.S. and Republic of Korea and the combined capabilities of their air and space forces. Brunson's visit demonstrated his commitment to strengthening the partnership and ensuring readiness for future challenges.

Brunson assumed command of UNC, CFC and USFK Dec. 20.

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Operation BOLO: A mission to maintain air superiority



New O'Malley Dining Facility grand opening



DoD participates in Vietnam Defense Expo 2024

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Crimson Sky Published by Seventh Air Force 7th Air Force

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#### Circulation: 7,000

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For all submitted items include a point of contact name and telephone number. All items are subject to editing for content and to insure they conform with DoD guidelines. Seventh Air Force Public Affairs and the Crimson Sky biweekly staff are located at Seventh Air Force Osan Air Base. For information, call Commercia 0505-784-4709 or DSN 315-784-4709.

## NEWS **Air Force partners with academia, industry**



By Lt. Col. Cody Chiles **Air Education and Training Command Public Affairs** 

JOINT BASE SAN ANTONIO-RANDOLPH, Texas (AFNS) -- Air Education and Training Command partnered with the University of North Dakota Aerospace Foundation flight training program in Arizona and the Brunner Aerospace flight training program in Texas to test a new Initial Pilot Training (IPT) model.

A total of 65 U.S. Air Force student pilots took to the skies from Mesa, Arizona, and Georgetown, Texas, as part of two Small Group Tryouts (SGTOs) that support AETC's plan to revise pilot training for U.S. Air Force and partner nation pilots.

The IPT SGTOs utilized Federal Aviation

Administration Part 141 certified courses to provide the student pilots with basic airmanship, instrument, and multi-engine flying competencies. The goal of the SGTOs is for IPT students to complete the training in 139 calendar days during which they will log approximately 110 flying hours.

Upon completion of the SGTOs, the Air Force trainees earned their private pilot certificate, instrument rating, and multi-engine rating.

"The initial results are positive," said Brig. Gen. Matthew Leard, AETC's Plans, Programs, Requirements and International Affairs director. "Partnership with the civil aviation sector, where expertise and capacity exist, allows the Air Force to focus on teaching military-specific aviation competencies."

After completing IPT, the first class of SGTO students started Undergraduate Pilot Training (UPT) utilizing a revised T-6A [Texan II] syllabus at Columbus Air Force Base, Mississippi, in September 2024. The second class of SGTO students is projected to begin T-6 training in March of 2025, also at Columbus AFB.

In the revised UPT program, students will train with military instructors for 108 training days and log approximately 57 flying and 50 simulator hours in the T-6A Texan II. The syllabus will build upon the competencies learned during the IPT SGTO and focus on military-specific aviation competencies, with students earning their military pilot wings at the end

of the program.

"The model we are testing allows for increased throughput to meet Air Force pilot production requirements, and initial data shows it does so while also increasing the quality of our graduates" Leard said. "Additionally, it establishes relationships with the commercial aviation training enterprise to create future capacity, if needed."

Moving forward, AETC will continue exploring partnerships with several public universities that offer FAA Part 141 flight training with the available capacity to conduct additional SGTOs in 2025. All IPT SGTO students will continue to be tracked through the completion of graduate Formal Training Units.

Additional data is being collected, analyzed, and combined with lessons learned to inform future decisions to support the Air Force's goal to produce 1,500 pilots annually.

The Air Force has a history of partnering with civilian flying schools. During World War II, the [then] Army Air Corps partnered with civilian pilot schools to provide primary flight training.

The Air Corps had a backlog of 100,000 applicants and decided to use the College Training Program at 153 colleges across the country. During WWII, the Air Corps produced about 200,000 pilots with half having spent time in a College Training Program.

Today's Air Force doesn't face the same daunting backlog, but it has not been able to meet the goal of producing 1,500 pilots per year, for several years.

"Just like the Airmen before us, we are working closely with industry to increase our capacity to produce pilots at the speed of need to support our national security requirements," said Lt. Gen. Brian Robinson, AETC commander. "The threats are growing, and we are out of time. AETC is harnessing the power of American academia and industry to rapidly reoptimize our ability to train and develop Airmen for Great Power Competition. If called upon, we will be ready to defend our nation; and if there is a fight, we will win."

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# Wolf Pack hosts Wing Community Day

U.S. Air Force Staff Sgt. Max Lavigne, left, 8th Civil Engineer Squadron operations management craftsman, and Senior Airman Louver Cara, 8th Logistics Readiness Squadron vehicle maintenance journeyman, pose with rock climbing gear at Kunsan Air Base, Republic of Korea, Jan. 6, 2025. Wing Community Day was initiated to increase opportunities for meaningful engagement and a connected community through various clubs. (U.S. Air Force photo by Senior Airman Maria Umanzor Guzman)

By Senior Airman Maria Umanzor Guzman 8th Fighter Wing Public Affairs

KUNSAN AIR BASE, Republic of Korea -- Members of the Wolf Pack organized a Wing Community Day at Kunsan Air Base, Republic of Korea, Jan. 6, 2025. Wing Community Day offered several Clubs of the Pack to increase opportunities for meaningful engagement and a connected community with similar interests.



Card game pieces are displayed on a table at Kunsan Air Base, Republic of Korea, Jan. 6, 2025. The Wolf Pack held Wing Community Day to create multiple opportunities for people to explore hobbies, sports, and meet others with shared interests. (U.S. Air Force photo by Senior Airman Maria Umanzor Guzman)



A Clubs of the Pack poster is displayed on a table at Kunsan Air Base, Republic of Korea, Jan. 6, 2025. Members of the Wolf Pack hosted Wing Community Day to offer several avenues for participating in hobbies, sports, and meeting people with similar interests. (U.S. Air Force photo by Senior Airman Maria Umanzor Guzman) ▲

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Members from the 8th Fighter Wing participate in Wing Community Day at Kunsan Air Base, Republic of Korea, Jan. 6, 2025. Members of the Wolf Pack hosted Wing Community Day to offer several avenues for participating in hobbies, sports, and meeting people with similar interests. (U.S. Air Force photo by Senior Airman Maria Umanzor Guzman) 🛦

U.S. Air Force Tech. Sgt. Michael Monge, left, 8th Maintenance Squadron aircraft ground equipment section chief, Tech. Sgt. Arana Khan, center, and Tech. Sgt. Jose Quinones, right, 8th Maintenance Group quality assurance inspectors, pose with tri-folds representing Hispanic countries at Kunsan Air Base, Republic of Korea, Jan. 6, 2025. Members of the Wolf Pack hosted Wing Community Day to offer several avenues for participating in hobbies, sports, and meeting people with similar interests. (U.S. Air Force photo by Senior Airman Maria Umanzor Guzman) *A* Maria Umanzor Guzman) 🗨



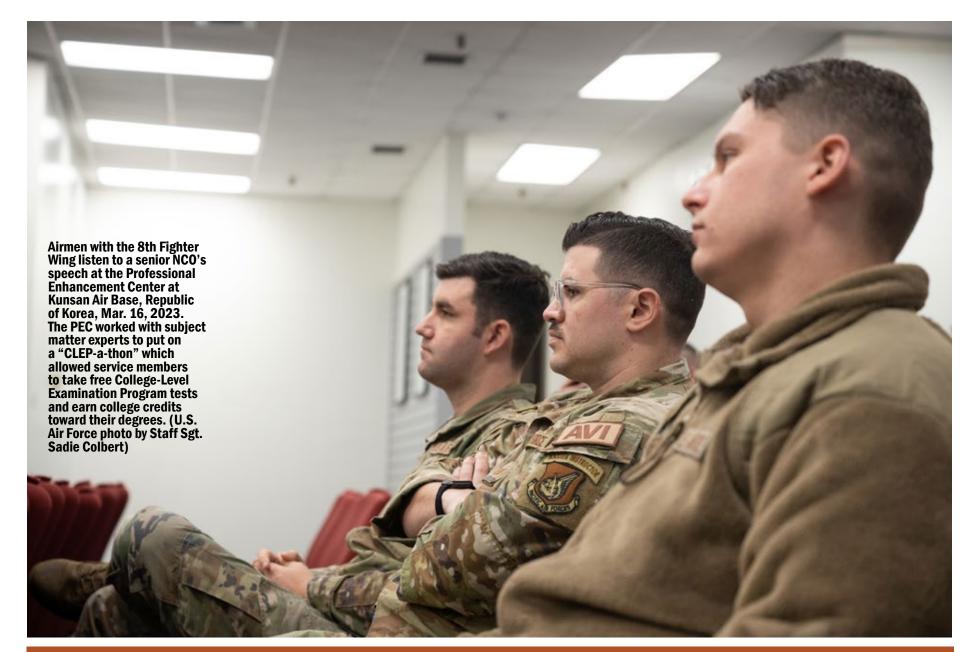
Stickers and patches of the 5/6 Council are displayed on a table during Wing Community Day at Kunsan Air Base, Republic of Korea, Jan. 6, 2025. Wing Community Day was initiated to increase opportunities for meaningful engagement and a connected community through various clubs. (U.S. Air Force photo by Senior Airman Maria Umanzor Guzman)▲

Members from the 8th Fighter Wing participate in Wing Community Day at Kunsan Air Base, Republic of Korea, Jan. 6, 2025. The Wolf Pack held Wing Community Day to create multiple opportunities for people to explore hobbies, sports, and meet others with shared interests. (U.S. Air Force photo by Senior Airman Maria Umanzor Guzman) ◀

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## NEWS

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## Wolf Pack employs Foundations courses for lasting leadership success

#### **8th Fighter Wing Public Affairs**

KUNSAN AIR BASE, Republic of Korea -- In today's high-stakes Air Force environment, the Wolf Pack is pioneering innovative approaches to leadership development, which empowers its Airmen with the skills, knowledge, and mindset necessary to excel in the most demanding operational environments.

"Investing in personal and professional development is crucial for success in a competitive environment and potential future conflicts," said Chief Master Sgt. Nathan Chrestensen, 8th Fighter Wing command chief. "It is important to the great power competition to enable Airmen to gain a deeper understanding of the necessary knowledge, skills, abilities, attitudes, and strategic thinking required to effectively accomplish the mission."

Recognizing the need to further develop each tier group's leadership capabilities, the Thomas N. Barnes Center for Enlisted Education created additional enlisted professional military education (EPME)

that would act as a natural bridge to already existing courses such as Airman Leadership School, NCOA and SNCOA.

These new Foundations courses will replace base-level professional enhancement seminars and eventually become prerequisites for EPME.

"The intent of the courses are to ensure we are continuously enhancing our leadership skills in between the times when our enlisted members attend formal in-residence PME," said Tech. Sgt. Jordan Harris, Foundations Course NCO in charge. "What's neat is that each level of Foundations is tailored to that learning group and promotes interpersonal skills and discussions guided by facilitators

with input from the students." 8th Fighter Wing leadership called for the expedited implementation of the foundation courses at Kunsan to ensure members of the Wolf Pack have a competitive edge.

"We could have considered not offering foundation courses at Kunsan due to its oneyear remote assignment, but that would have limited our Airmen's' potential for long-term growth," said Chrestensen. "The Foundation courses provide Kunsan Airmen with essential tools, such as resiliency, mission command, and leadership or followership, to apply locally and ultimately prepare them for success in any future high-pressure situation. The Wolf Pack is fully mission-oriented, and we want all our people to be ready to lead and initiate no matter what."

To successfully implement the new courses, Wolf Pack organizers studied the curriculum, recruited volunteer facilitators, and aligned efforts with other development advisors across PACAF. As a result of the organizers' efforts, the Wolf Pack began hosting Foundations courses 16 months ahead of the Air Force's official implementation deadline of December 2025.

Master Sgt. Melissa Anderson, 8th Operations Support Squadron "Wizards" host aviation resource management (HARM) superintendent and recent attendee of Kunsan's first SNCO Foundations Course, noted the new program





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helps members improve themselves and their units. "The diverse range of topics covered, from leadership and conflict management to psychological safety and strategic planning ensures that we are well-equipped and can bring the skills back to our work centers to shape future SNCOs," said Anderson. "This class helped ensure that we were all more well-rounded leaders who had the tools to adapt to this ever-changing environment and lead a more cohesive force." With a proven track record of delivering results,

the course's cadre are committed to the course's relentless innovation and improvement, ensuring that every airman who passes through its doors is equipped with the skills, knowledge, and warrior spirit necessary to ensure an open and free Indo-Pacific region.

"We really want to codify a program that works for our Airmen," said Harris. "That's why it was important for us to get this right, evolve and expand as a combat force."

Enlisted Airmanship Continuum,100-900, connects institutional, functional and base delivered education, training and experiences. The Enlisted Airmanship Continuum is first introduced at basic military training, reinforced by foundational competencies in each AFSC's career field education and training plan, and embedded throughout the entire continuum. File photo.

## **OSAN AIR POWER DAYS 2025** 2025 오산 에어쇼



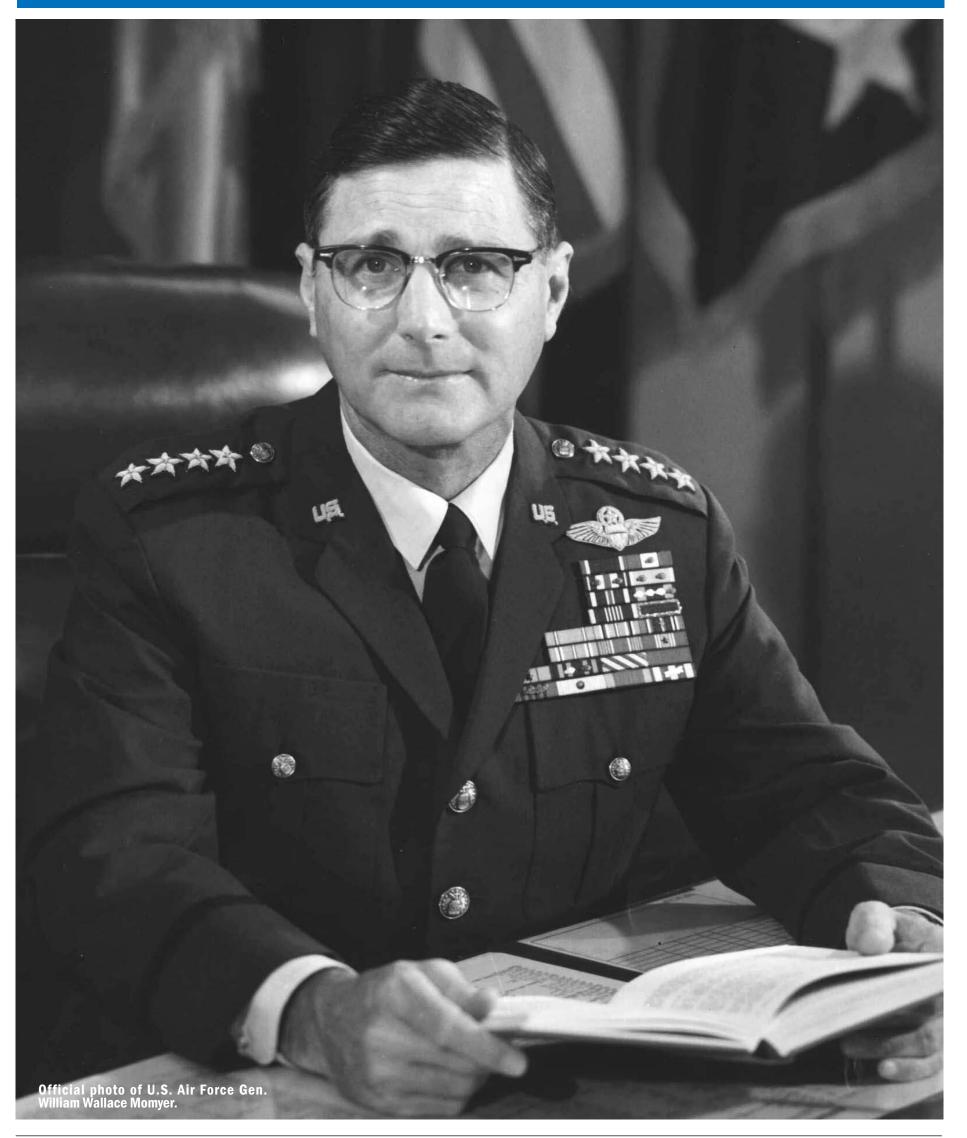
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Osan Air Base

오산공군기지

## "Respect the Past, Forge the Future"

## **Operation BOLO: A mission to** maintain air superiority



#### **By Michael Stephen** 7th Air Force/8th Fighter Wing Historian

KUNSAN AIR BASE, Republic of Korea -- Much has already been written about Operation BOLO, one notable example being Historian Howard Halvorsen's 2011 article. However, not much if at all has been provided from the perspective of Gen William W. Momyer, who was the Seventh Air Force commander in Vietnam at the time the mission was conducted on January 2, 1967. Gen. Momyer's views on the subject can be found in his 1978 book, Air Power in Three Wars. From the book you can glean what his motivations were going into the operation. Gen. Momyer viewed Operation BOLO as a necessary and timely countermeasure to maintain air superiority in the region . He understood that the North Vietnamese Air Force's (NVAF) newfound capabilities posed a significant risk to U.S. strike missions, particularly to the vulnerable F-105 Thunderchief.

patterns in Operation BOLO.

Though the MIG threat in Vietnam was relatively low in 1965 and the early part of 1966, the threat increased significantly in the later part of 1966 due to improved tactics by the NVAF. These tactics utilized by pilots of the MIG-21 were the greatest concern of 7th AF pilots throughout the war. Two reasons for that improvement. First, the NVAF flying formations became more flexible as the North Vietnamese GCI system was further developed in the last three months of 1966. Secondly, the new Atoll heat-seeking missile allowed the NVAF to attack quicker and with less risk to themselves by utilizing high-speed hit-and-run tactics (maneuvers that progressed similarly by North Korean and Chinese pilots during the Korean War).

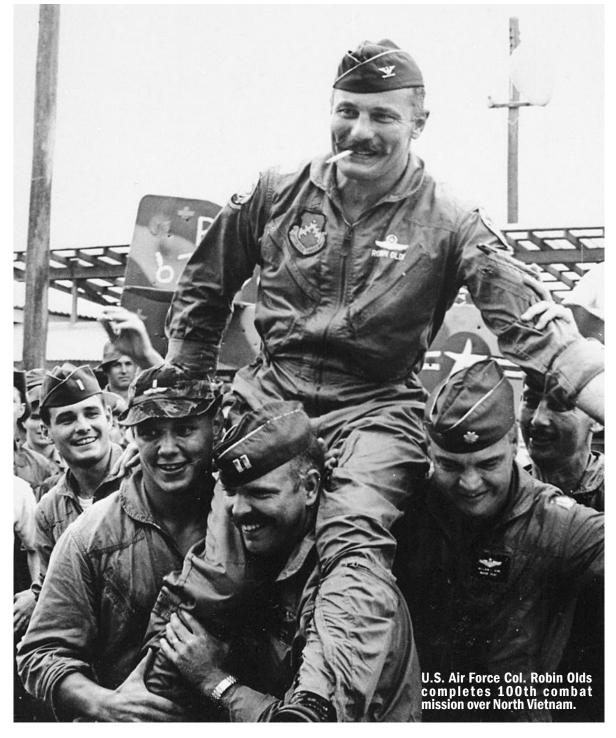
7th AF determined how an appropriately designed fighter sweep conducted at just the right time would destroy a large number of MIGs. "The fighter sweep was designed to appear as a normal F-105 strike force with escorting fighters," said



ARLINGTON, Va. (AFNS) -- The U.S. Air Force released the Fiscal Year 2025 Selective Retention Bonus list, effective Dec. 16, 2024. The FY25 SRB program consists of 89 Air Force specialty codes, reflecting the Air Force's ongoing commitment to retaining highly skilled enlisted personnel. Airmen whose Air Force specialty codes are included in the FY25 list, are eligible to reenlist or extend their service and receive a bonus. The bonuses aim to retain experienced professionals in fields with extensive initial skills training

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The Thunderchiefs were bomb-laden aircraft participating in strike missions, escorted by F-4 fighter escorts also carrying bombs, that set forth against specific targets in North Vietnam. Momyer aimed to force the MiGs into an engagement under unfavorable conditions, exploiting their reliance on their Ground Control Interceptor (GCI) system and predictable attack



Momyer in his book.

The escorting fighters used typical call signs, and all indicators were designed to provide the notion that it was just another run-of-the-mill strike force. For Operation BOLO to succeed, the F-4s would be without bombs and the timing of the mission would take advantage of the Christmas and New Year standdown, which in the past, the MIGs had demonstrated a significant effort.

Operation BOLO succeeded in completely

catching the MIG pilots by surprise. Although significant in its success, Momyer reflected on how the engagement was relatively small compared to larger air battles in conflicts like the Korean War.

Overall, Momyer depicted Operation BOLO as an effective use of deception and tactical planning to address emerging threats, mirroring the Agile Combat Employment (ACE) concepts the Air Force is developing to counter today's threats.

## **Air Force releases FY25 Selective Retention Bonus list**

#### **Secretary of the Air Force Public Affairs**

requirements and stringent qualification standards.

Eligible Airmen can choose to receive the SRB either as lump-sum payments up front or through incremental installments, offering flexibility to meet individual financial needs.

Career fields receiving an FY25 SRB include: maintenance, aircrew, cyber, medical and special operations AFSCs.

Detailed information about the FY25 SRB program can be found in the Air Force Selective

Retention Bonus Listing available on myFSS, using the keyword "Selective Retention Bonus Program." General eligibility criteria for the Selective Retention Bonus are outlined in Department of the Air Force Instruction 36-2606, Reenlistment and Extension of Enlistment in the United States Air Force, specifically Chapters 3-6.

For additional information on the FY25 SRB list contact a local Military Personnel Flight, Career Development section.

# New O'Malley Dining Facility grand opening



By Staff Sgt. Nicholas Ross **8th Fighter Wing Public Affairs** 

KUNSAN AIR BASE, Republic of Korea -- The much anticipated state-of-the-art O'Malley Dining Facility (DFAC) has officially opened its doors. The newly renovated building is not just a dining hall, but a significant enhancement to the quality of life for the men and women of the Wolf Pack.

"Today, we celebrate not just a building, but the teamwork and perseverance that went into opening the doors to the new O'Malley [Dining Facility], strengthening our ability to deliver the Wolf Pack Mission," said U.S. Air Force Maj. Jamila Edgerson, 8th Force Support Squadron commander. "Making access to fresh, nutritious meals is critical for maintaining focus, energy and operational efficiency...and the 8th FSS and the new O'Malley Dining Facility team are committed to ensuring that."

Located across from its old building, the O'Malley DFAC offers a spacious, comfortable environment with several updated features. New furniture, an open layout and mounted televisions help create a more relaxed and engaging atmosphere during downtimes.

"We can seat 800 people at O'Malley's," said



Military members assigned to the 8th Fighter Wing enjoy a holiday meal during the new O'Malley Dining Facility's opening at Kunsan Air Base, Republic of Korea, Dec. 25, 2024. The DFAC plans to serve more than 2,400 people daily through the increased capabilities of the \$21.5 million joint project facilitated by the 8th FW, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, and the ROK partners. (U.S. Air Force photo by Master Sgt. Michael Charles)

#### January 10, 2025



Airman 1st Class Savannah Bailey, 8th FSS food service apprentice. "We have new chairs, tables, booths and a separate dining room." New cookware, a walk-in freezer and coolers, and more food stations will allow for more diverse meal options. Along with the main entree station, there is a snack and deli line, salad and specialty bars, and a small bakery. The facility is also designed to accommodate various work schedules, exercises and followon forces, offering flexible hours to ensure that personnel can access a meal before or after their shifts. On top of the regular service hours, the DFAC will now have 24-hr access for

grab-n-go meals.

midnight meal."

connect with their peers.

Michael Charles)►

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"Weekday serving hours are 5:00-8:30 am for breakfast, 11am - 1:30 pm for lunch, 5-7:30 pm for dinner and 11 pm - 1 am for the midnight meal," said Tech Sgt. Doddy Burhannudin, 8th FSS dining facility manager. "Weekend and holiday hours are 7 am to 1 pm for brunch, 5-7:30 pm for dinner and 11 pm to 1 am for the

The new dining facility is a welcome upgrade that underscores the importance of ensuring service members have access to high-quality, nutritious food and a space to unwind and

Military members assigned to the 8th Fighter Wing line up to enjoy a holiday meal at the new O'Malley Dining Facility opening at Kunsan Air Base, Republic of Korea Dec. 25, 2024. The new DFAC plans to serve more than 2,400 people daily through the increased capabilities of the \$21.5 million joint project facilitated by the 8th FW, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, and the ROK partners. (U.S. Air Force photo by Master Sgt.





U.S. Air Force Colonel Casey Crabill, 8th **Maintenance Group** commander, serves a holiday meal to a Wolf Pack member during the new O'Malley Dining Facility's opening at Kunsan Air Base, Republic of Korea, Dec. 25, 2024. The new \$21.5 million **DFAC** hosts expanded space and revamped accommodations, including serving food lines, enhanced dining areas and expanded storage to support the 8th Fighter Wing and visiting exercise personnel. (U.S. Air Force photo by Master Sgt. Michael Charles) 🛦

## Navigating change

## US Air Force, Space Force surgeon general discusses transformative leadership

#### **By Maristela Romero Air Force Surgeon General Public Affairs**

FALLS CHURCH, Va. (AFNS) -- For U.S. Air Force Lt. Gen. John J. DeGoes, U.S. Air Force and Space Force surgeon general, transformative leadership is rooted in purposeful communication, adaptability and a commitment to the Air Force core values. During this time of change in the Air Force Medical Service with ongoing preparations to stand up Air Force Medical Command, DeGoes highlighted his approach to navigating this organizational change.

"Being a learning leader is certainly a core principle for me," DeGoes said. "This goes with grounding myself in the Air Force core values of integrity first, excellence in all we do and service before self."

#### Empowering medics through clear communication

A significant part of DeGoes' leadership has involved improving communication across AFMS. DeGoes described his goal to establish transparent and succinct messaging, ensuring that all medics within AFMS are well-informed and connected to the mission.

"In my first month, we prioritized improving how we communicate broadly, deeply and briefly to our 31,000 active medics and international Guard and Reserve medics as well," he noted. "You can do all this great strategic planning and have a nice trifold glossy mission vision, but if you can't get things done, then your genius just stays on paper."

#### Embrace the Ready Medic mindset

One of the most challenging moments in DeGoes' career came with the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic. On March 13, 2020, as the World Health Organization declared a global pandemic, DeGoes faced critical decisions on maintaining Air Force training pipelines in his previous role as the 59th Medical Wing Commander, Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland, Texas.

"I could tell you exactly where I was. I was sitting at the Air Education & Training Commander's table," DeGoes recalled.

At the time, he led discussions on whether to suspend Air Force training programs due to health concerns.

"I leveraged the fact that we had the best infectious disease experts in the Department



Lt. Gen. John J. DeGoes, U.S. Air Force and Space Force Surgeon General, celebrates his promotion to the rank of lieutenant general at the Defense Health Headquarters, Falls Church, Virginia, Sept. 25, 2024. (U.S. Air Force photo by Megan Hearst) ▲

of Defense in San Antonio between Air Force and Army ... what I believe is the best hospital intensive care unit capability."

The experience underscored the necessity of operationally relevant healthcare and partnerships across services. By aligning the strengths of Air Force's medical capability with other military units, DeGoes ensured that training pipelines remained open – a success that he attributes to clear mission alignment and effective risk management.

"The success is one thing, but it's making sure that when you're a medic, you can give commanders the opportunity to keep their mission going," DeGoes said.

#### Creating a culture for success and innovation

For DeGoes, building a supportive and innovative culture within AFMS is essential for enduring success. He sees the right people and resources as integral to achieving trusted care, anytime, anywhere.

"Creating a culture in the organization where it's safe to bring up a new idea, that will be another one of my cross-cutting goals," he said. "We won't have all the resources we need. You make up the difference with innovation."

By fostering open communication and ensuring resource allocation, DeGoes aims to empower AFMS personnel, creating an environment where new ideas are encouraged, and critical innovations can take hold.

#### Commitment to the future of the Air Force Medical Service

As DeGoes leads AFMS through its 75th year, he envisions a future driven by continuous improvement and adaptability. His goal is to prepare medics who are not only highly skilled but also equipped to support operations in increasingly austere environments.

"The Airmen and Guardians are the most important part of the Air Force Medical Service," DeGoes emphasized. "The mission gets done at our med groups. I would encourage them to be operationally relevant and to be part of their installation's mission. The better they understand it, the more effective they will be."

In his role, DeGoes remains dedicated to innovation, readiness, and the well-being of both personnel and the families that support them. Through his leadership, he aims to carry AFMS forward, adapting to new challenges while upholding the values that define the Air Force.

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**Rev. Donald L. Brown, Pastor** 

#### SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

Sunday School	10:00 AM
Morning Worship	
Wednesday Bible Study	6:30 PM
Lord's Supper	1st Sunday
Missions Sunday	4th Sunday
Men's Fellowship	2nd Sat 8:00 AM
Women's Fellowship	Last Fri 6:00 PM

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**January 10, 2025** 

## **USAF, ROKAF conduct CBRN training**

#### By Staff Sgt. Daniel Brosam **8th Fighter Wing Public Affairs**

KUNSAN AIR BASE, Republic of Korea --U.S. and Republic of Korea Air Force Airmen conducted Chemical, Biological, Radiological and Nuclear training Dec. 5, 2024.

The training aimed to enhance the operational capabilities between the units, and improve collaborative response procedures.

**U.S. and Republic of Korea Air Force Airmen flash** the 8th Civil Engineer Squadron "Red Devil" hand sign after Chemical, Biological, Radiological, and Nuclear training at Kunsan Air Base, ROK, Dec. 5, 2024. The training aimed to enhance the operational capabilities between the units, and improve collaborative response procedures. (U.S. Air Force photo by Staff Sgt. Daniel Brosam)





Republic of Korea Air Force Airmen attend Chemical, Biological, Radiological, and Nuclear training with U.S. Air Force Airmen at Kunsan Air Base, ROK, Dec. 5, 2024. During the training, the two units shared tactics and procedures and discussed ways to improve existing response strategies. (U.S. Air Force photo by Staff Sgt. Daniel Brosam) ▲



Airman 1st Class Vanessa Nogueda-Castaneda, 8th Civil Engineer Squadron installation office of emergency management apprentice, briefs Republic of Korea Air Force Airmen on locations and procedures for utilizing M8 paper during Chemical, Biological, Radiological, and Nuclear training at Kunsan Air Base, ROK, Dec. 5, 2024. The 8th CES focused on disaster response drills while ROKAF Airmen reviewed operational processes and response protocols. (U.S. Air Force photo by Staff Sgt. Daniel Brosam) ▲

U.S. and Republic of Korea Air Force Airmen discuss Chemical, Biological, Radiological, and Nuclear training tactics and procedures near a simulated contaminated waste disposal area at Kunsan Air Base, ROK, Dec. 5, 2024. The training aimed to enhance the operational capabilities between the units and improve collaborative response procedures. (U.S. Air Force photo by Staff Sgt. Daniel Brosam) ▼



A Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear patch and Pacific Air Forces patch is displayed on Airman 1st Class Gabrielle Angylyka Fernandez, 8th Civil Engineer Squadron installation office of emergency management apprentice, during U.S. and Republic of Korea Air Force-partnered CBRN training at Kunsan Air Base, ROK, Dec. 5, 2024. During the training, the two units shared tactics and procedures and discussed ways to improve existing response procedures. (U.S. Air Force photo by Staff Sgt. Daniel Brosam) ▼



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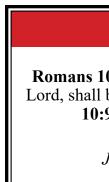


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## CRIMSON SKY

## **SPACE HEATER SAFETY**



ccording 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.

- 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
- 3. Space heaters must be equipped to shut off electric power to the unit
- 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

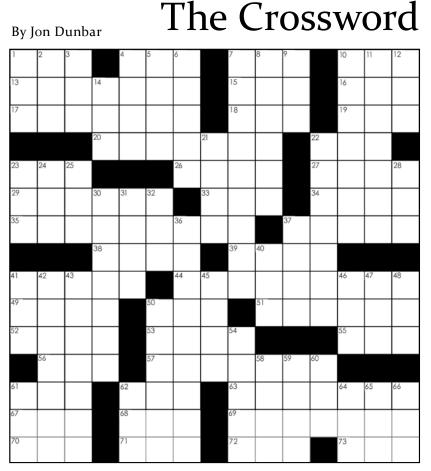
#### Are You Saved?

Jesus Saves!

Romans 10:13 For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord, shall be saved. [See: Romans 3:10, 3:23, 5:12, 6:23, 5:8, 10:9-10, and pray & ask The Lord to save you.]

Haven Baptist Church

Just outside the Front Gate at Kunsan AB – Preaching Christ 50+ years. www.hbcingunsan.com Redeem this AD for a FREE COFFEE at church!



ACROSS

- 1 Rule
- 4 Donkey
- 7 Animated image io English money
- 13 Actress Portman
- 15 \_\_\_\_ to Joy 16 Old woman
- 17 Enhance
- 18 Fib
- 19 Irish terrorists
- 20 Korean National Assembly
- location 22 World Series league
- 23 Necessary cards
- 26 Robert Frost or Maya Angelou
- 27 "Frozen" snowman
- 29 Less meaty
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- DOWN
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- 8 Morons
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52 Largest continent 53 Cotton-tipped stick 55 "The Walking Dead" channel 56 Gift for a kid 57 Punk musician Henry 61 Hole-making tool 62 Seoul river 63 Location of Hamilton Hotel 67 Buddy 68 Explosive trap 69 Woven screen 70 Expert 71 Yasser Arafat's group 72 Bioengineered food 73 Lion constellation

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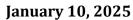
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## Photo NEWS

**January 10, 2025** 







patrol: A U.S. Air Force B-52H Stratofortress conducts a combat air patrol in support of Operation Inherent Resolve over the U.S. Central Command area of responsibility, Dec. 15, 2024. The deployment of the long-range heavy bombers into the USCENTCOM theater demonstrates the United States' dedication to deterring aggression and maintaining stability in the region alongside allies and partners. (U.S. Air Force photo by Staff Sgt. Gerald R. Willis) ▲

est buds: Tech. Sgt. Cullen Thomas, 325th Security Forces Squadron military working dog trainer, interacts with MWD Linez, on the obedience yard at Tyndall Air Force Base, Fla., Nov. 18, 2024. As a MWD trainer, it is important to interact with the K-9s in a close setting to build trust between the two partners. (U.S. Air Force photo by Airman First Class Asha Wiltshire) ◀

## Photo NEWS



## COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Kunsan

Osan

**January 10, 2025** 

#### - 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 for the holiday season (November and "Italian cooking" to "Southern style." 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 cific unit cook dinner for their fellow Free to all. Prizes for first and second

imum of 30 days depending on availability. You can also book reservations range from "breakfast for dinner" to 4679. December) up to 30 days in advance For more information or to volunteer, for a maximum of 15 days. (Depend- contact the chapel at 782-HOPE. ing on availability) Book now for all of those relatives coming for the holiday! Reservations - Front Desk-DSN 782- Learn creative ways to assist newcom-1844 or Commercial (82)63-470-1844 ers reporting to Kunsan AB. Registra-FAX: DSN 315-782-0633 Commercial (82)63-470-0633

#### - SUNDAY SONLIGHT DINNER -

Every Sunday, volunteers from a spe-

#### - SPONSOR TRAINING -

tion required. Class is held at the Airman and Family Readiness Center. Call 782-5644 for more information, dates or to sign up.

lodging rooms on a space available ba- Wolf Pack members at the Sonlight places. Prizes include Wolf Pack Won. sis up to 120 days in advance for a max- Inn. The dinner begins at 6 p.m. fol- To sign up, dates or for more inforlowing grace led by a chaplain. Meals mation, call the CAC at 782-5213 or

- PING PONG TOURNAMENT -

Alcoholics Anonymous

Every Tuesday and Thursday | 1700-1800 | Building 769, Resiliency Center Training Room

For additional information and a point of contact, visit the AA in Korea website at aainkorea.org

#### Tobacco Cessation Classes

Every Thursday | 0900-1100 | Building 1419, Human Performance Center (The building right behind the fitness center) Osan AB offers free tobacco cessation classes to all DOD id members. The health promotion coordinator is available to help you break this habit, through counseling, educational materials, and health coaching. Please make an appointment via her email, Troisha Busano, troisha.d.busano. civ@health.mil.

#### Ultimate Frisbee

Saturdays | 0900 | Mustang Field (Across from Outdoor Rec) Open to all AD, CIV, and Dependents w/ base access. Please join us on the field for 60 minutes of cardio-vascular exercise. All ages and experience levels welcome, even if you have never touched a frisbee. POCs – David Brittain 010-8354-1576, SSgt Ethan Troutman, ethan.troutman@us.af.mil, DSN 315-784-5657, CELL 010-5793-2467

#### Volunteering Coaching Opportunities for High School Sports

Please email Osan Middle High School AO William.Castro@dodea.edu ideally 2-3 months ahead of the season to begin processing your specified

volunteer packet. Once your packet is submitted for processing, you may be a line-of-sight volunteer as you work through the process. Winter sports (Nov 4-Feb 5) offered: Boys and girls basketball, wrestling, swimming, marksmanship, and esports (Valorant and Rocket League). Spring sports (Feb 18-May 22) offered: Baseball/ softball, boys and girls soccer, and track. Volunteer coaches will work with DoDEA staff head coaches.

#### Attention DoDEA Students and Families

School Year 2024-2025 If your children walk to DoDEA schools, please ensure they use the crosswalk near OMHS, near the commissary parking garage, across from building 492. This helps reduce traffic congestion and enhances safety, as more adults are present in this area during specified school times. POC: April Kersey, 010-3386-0051 or email to April.Kersey@us.af.mil

#### Cub Scout Volunteers

Through May 2025 | Osan AB Pack 86 Cub Scouts are looking for adult volunteers to assist with Den Meetings and Pack Events. Volunteer opportunities include Den Leaders (weekly commitment) and Assistant Den Leaders (commitment as able) for Scouts ranging in age from 6 to 11 years old, and Den Committee Members (monthly meetings and admin work as required). No prior Scouting experience required, just a desire to provide positive experiences for the

children of Team Osan. If interested, please contact Committee Chair Megan Davis, megan.davis.2@us.af. mil, and Pack Leader Jeff Davis, jeffrey. davis.58@us.af.mil.

#### **Osan Air Base Honor Guard** Every Monday & Wednesday | 1630-

1730 | Bldg. 936 Rm. 211 The Osan Air Base Honor Guard covers ceremonies across the peninsula acknowledging the achievements of our fellow members in uniform and their families. An amazing way to serve the members in your community and build lasting connections between other service members. For any questions, comments, or concerns please reach out to OsanHonorGuard@us.af.mil

#### Wingmen Helping Airmen Get Home 010-3386-0051 or email to April.

Saturdays | 2300-0400 | SED WHAGH is a new program inspired by AADD, whose purpose is to ensure the safety and well-being of Airmen within the Songtan Entertainment District by escorting members to their residences. The WHAGH team is looking for volunteers this weekend. There's no rank requirement to volunteer. All are welcome to help. If interested or for more information, please email 51fw. whagh.1@us.af.mil.

#### **Osan Air Power Days 2025**

May 10-11 | Osan Air Base Experience the excitement at Osan Air Base's first air show since 2019! Get ready for thrilling aerial performances, aircraft displays and interactive exhibits. This family-friendly event, free of

charge and open to the public, offers the chance to meet pilots, explore military aircraft up close, and enjoy a dav full of entertainment. Stay tuned for more details as we prepare for this wonderful event! More details will be posted at https://www.osan.af.mil/ OsanAPD2025/.

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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	

#### **January 10, 2025**









## CRIMSON SKY

#### CRIMSON SKY | PAGE 19

# DoD participates in Vietnam Defense Expo 2024



#### By Capt. Casey Bell 36th Wing

HANOI, Vietnam -- The U.S. Department of Defense participated in the Vietnam Defense Expo 2024 at Gia Lam Airport, Hanoi, Vietnam Dec.19-22, 2024.

Spanning over 25,000 square meters, the event brought together more than 200 exhibitors from over 50 countries, drawing more than 150,000 attendees. The expo offered a platform to strengthen military-to-military ties and regional partnerships underscoring the U.S.-Vietnam Comprehensive Strategic Partnership (CSP).

"U.S. military participation in the Vietnam Defense Expo 24 builds stronger relationships with the Vietnam people and the other nations participating in the event," said Lt. Col. Onnie Retkofsky, Pacific Air Forces A<sub>37</sub> Airboss. "When we can bring Airmen and Soldiers and U.S. assets to Vietnam to participate in an event of this magnitude, it highlights the importance of the U.S.-Vietnam partnership and our shared defense interests."

The CSP ensures an overarching framework for advancing the bilateral relationship between both nations, focusing

Members of the Vietnam People's Armed Forces and Vietnamese citizens attend the Vietnam Defense Expo 2024 at the Gia Lam Airport, Dec. 21, 2024. The U.S. is an Indo-Pacific nation and will remain engaged in the region, securing every opportunity to train alongside our Allies and partners to build interoperability and bolster our collective ability to support a free and open Indo-Pacific. (U.S. Air Force photo by Capt. Casey Bell) ▲



U.S. Air Force Airmen hand out patches to Vietnamese citizens at the Vietnam Defense Expo 2024 at the Gia Lam Airport, Dec. 21, 2024. The U.S. is an Indo-Pacific nation and will remain engaged in the region, securing every opportunity to train alongside our Allies and partners to build interoperability and bolster our collective ability to support a free and open Indo-Pacific. (U.S. Air Force photo by Capt. Casey Bell)▲

#### **January 10, 2025**

on a forward-looking vision that spans political, defense, economic, health, and people-to-people ties. The CSP builds on trade and investment ties and takes a future-oriented approach to sustainable growth and cooperation in science, technology, education, and upskilling. "Our robust participation at the Vietnam International Defense Expo demonstrates our commitment to enhance defense trade cooperation, in line with our Joint Vision Statement signed by Secretary Austin and Minister of National Defense General Giang in September," said U.S. Army Lt. Col. Alex Manier, U.S. Embassy Hanoi, Chief of the Office of Defense Cooperation. "American presence at this expo highlights the significance of the U.S.- Vietnam Comprehensive Strategic Partnership, but also complements our diverse efforts with Vietnam including peacekeeping, humanitarian assistance, and maritime security. We applaud Vietnam for a successful international expo. Moreover, we are glad to have had the opportunity to join as we kickoff 2025 to commemorate 30 years of U.S.-Vietnam diplomatic relations, together."

Attendees viewed various U.S. military

partners around the globe."



## NEWS

equipment, including the C-130J Super Hercules, A-10 Thunderbolt II, M1083 Light Medium Tactical Vehicle, M777A2 Howitzer, and M1256A1 Stryker Vehicle. "Being here in Hanoi and being able to showcase the A-10 at a defense expo is amazing," said Capt. Cristian Alvarado, 25th Fighter Squadron flight commander. "Just by being on this runway, we are building trust and rapport with Vietnam and our allies and

The U.S. is committed to maintaining peace and stability in the Indo-Pacific, and this event reaffirms the durability of the U.S. commitment to Vietnam.



U.S. Air Force Technical Sgt. Caleb Mathers, 25th Fighter Squadron crew chief, conducts a visual inspection of an A-10 Thunderbolt II during the Vietnam Defense Expo 2024 at the Gia Lam Airport, Dec. 19, 2024. Through events like the expo, the Department of Defense enhances their ability to work with allies and partners, building collective strength toward ensuring a peaceful and stable Indo-Pacific region. (U.S. Air Force photo by Capt. Casey Bell)



/ietnamese citizens observe U.S. Air Force assets at the Vietnam Defense Expo 2024 at the Gia Lam Airport, Dec. 21, 2024. The U.S. is an Indo-Pacific nation and will remain engaged in the region, securing every opportunity to train alongside our Allies and partners to build interoperability and bolster our collective ability to support a free and open Indo-Pacific. (U.S. Air Force photo by Capt. Casey Bell) ▲

U.S. Air Force Capt. Cristian Alvarado, 25th Fighter Squadron flight commander, greets Phạm Tuân, Vietnamese Air Force fighter pilot and cosmonaut (retired) during the Vietnam Defense Expo 2024 at the Gia Lam Airport, Dec. 20, 2024. The U.S. is an Indo-Pacific nation and will remain engaged in the region, securing every opportunity to train alongside our Allies and partners to build interoperability and bolster our collective ability to support a free and open Indo-Pacific. (U.S. Air Force photo by Capt. Casey Bell) ◀

## CRIMSON SKY

**January 10, 2025** 

## The Warfighter's Spirit

#### The Freedom of Forgiveness

the Lancaster Amish community, who in 2006, demonstrated profound mercy and compassion in the face of tragedy.

On October 2, 2006, a gunman entered an Amish schoolhouse in Nickel Mines, Pennsylvania, and opened fire, killing five young girls and injuring several others before turning the gun on himself. The community was shaken to its core, and the world watched in horror as the news unfolded. However, in the aftermath of the tragedy, the Amish people showed an extraordinary capacity for forgiveness. Amidst their grief and pain, the Amish community chose to forgive the shooter, and even surrounded his family with support. I admit that I was skeptical when I read the story. Could they really forgive? Was it genuine? What about those closest to the victims? Articles, books, and interviews many years later testify to the genuineness of that forgiveness by its fruit. Their pain was real. The need to make the choice to forgive was real. And the ripple effects of the forgiveness were real. It changed the life of the shooter's mother and helped her resolve her struggle to forgive: "If they're forgiving my son, do I forgive my son? I was so angry with what he had done, and yet the realization that if I chose not to forgive him, I would have the same hole in my heart that he had." The

Amish, fueled by a deeply held conviction rooted in their faith and values, displayed forgiveness as a way forward, a way for healing and love.

As we start the new year, we can learn valuable lessons from the Lancaster Amish. Forgiveness is never easy-it requires work, willingness, courage, and strength-but it is a powerful way forward for healing and transformation. By letting go of hatred and resentment, we can free ourselves from negativity and the need for revenge and create space for positivity and growth. Forgiveness does not mean forgetting or condoning harm, but rather releasing the hold that past hurts have on us. It allows us to move forward, to rebuild and to create a new future. As the Amish community showed us, forgiveness is not just a personal act, but also a communal one. When we forgive, we not only find healing for ourselves, but we also create a more hopeful future for those around us, creating a ripple effect of kindness and compassion.

As we begin this new year, let us consider the power of forgiveness and make it a priority in our lives, just as the Lancaster Amish community has shown us, and may their example inspire us to create a more hopeful future for ourselves and the world around us.

#### KUNSAN AIR BASE

Weekly Worship Services @ Bldg #501

Catholic Holy Mass Sunday at 0900 (Chapel)

Weekday Masses - Tuesday-Thursday at 1138 (Blessed Sacrament Room inside Chapel)

> Protestant Worship Sunday at 1100 (Chapel)

> The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints Sunday at 1300 (Chapel)

Point of Contact: Kunsan Chapel, 782-HOPE

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

## **CHAPEL SCHEDULE**

#### OSAN AIR BASE

The New Chapel is Open for Worship Services Building 780

**Chapel Worship Services:** 

Protestant Service Sunday @ 0930

Catholic Sunday Mass Sunday @ 1130

Catholic Daily Mass is held in Room 173 Monday – Thursday @ 1130

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

Osan Air Base Christmas Eve Services Schedule

Protestant Christmas Eve Service, Tuesday, 24 December @ 1700 Roman Catholic Christmas Eve Service, Tuesday, 24 December @ 1900 Roman Catholic Christmas Midnight Mass, Tuesday, 24 December @ 2359 No Services on Christmas Day

Find us on the web@ https://www.facebook.com/OsanABChapel

#### HUMPHREYS

1200 Christ The King Eucharist Service - Pacific Victors Chapel 1800 KATUSA Service - Pacific Victors Chapel

THE CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF LATTER-DAY SAINTS (LDS)

- Sundays -1400-1600 Worship Meeting - Freedom Chapel POC: CH Droge; 010-8685-2976; shawn.a.droge.mil@mail.mil DIES AND MINISTRY AUXILIARIES

WED 0930-1145 Protestant Women of the Chapel (PWOC) - 4CMC \* Summer Steak until 30 August WED 0930-1145 Protestant Women of the Chapel (PWOC) - 4CMC \* Summer Schedule: 1800-2030 (until 28 August) 1830-2030 PWOC Evening Study - 4CMC WED 1000-1200 Korean Catholic Women Bible study - Freedom 17300 1930 Catholic Women at the Chapal (CWOC) - Freedom

\* POC: CH Underhill 010-8520-7217 1st SAT/Month 0830 Knights of Columbus -

*CATHULIC* - Freedom Chapel 1600-1700 Adoration (Saturdays) 1600-1700 Reconciliation/Contession (Saturdays) 1640 Rosary/Benediction (Saturdays) • 1730 Vigil Mass (Saturdays) 0900 Mass (Sundays) • 1730 Daily Mass (M-F) POC: usaghcatholiccoordinator@amail.com

POC: CH (CP

*ISLAMIC* - Pacific Victors Chapel Fridays: 1200-1330 Jumah Service Sundays: 1300-1500 Islamic / Arabic classes POC:CPT Anouar Bencheqroun 010-3382-7231 anouar.k.bencheqroun.mil

PAGAN Traditions Fridays: Freedom Chapel Rm 110 / 1800-1900 Pagan Fellowshir POC: (PT Rynn S. Rohinson: rynn s rahinson14 mil@mmil.mil

*BUDDHIST* Tuesdays - Warrior Chapel / 1800-1900 Buddhist Service POC: CH (CPT) Somya Malasri; 010-7460-1281; somya.malasri.mil@mail.mil







#### **January 10, 2025**



By Chaplain, Capt, John Choi

we embark on a new year, many **C** of us take time to reflect on the D past and look forward to a fresh start. One of the most powerful ways to begin anew is through forgiveness. A remarkable example of forgiveness can be found in

## Photo NEWS





udolph the Red-Nosed Hercules: A holiday-spirited C-130A Hercules is displayed outside the entrance at Little Rock Air Force Base, Ark., Dec. 2. 2024. The 19th Maintenance Squadron worked together to transform the aircraft into a Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer display, highlighting the community's collective effort to support one another, boost morale and spread holiday spirit. (U.S. Air Force photo by Airman Aidan Stein) ▲

the rescue: A U.S. Air Force pararescueman assigned to the 82nd Expeditionary Rescue Squadron recovers personnel in the water during exercise Bull Shark in Djibouti, Africa, Nov. 26, 2024. The exercise simulated multiple personnel recovery scenarios in water allowing for the coordination of land, sea and air components from multiple U.S. military branches, including the Spanish Navy and the Djiboutian Coast Guard. (U.S. Air Force photo by Staff Sgt. Jana Somero) ◀

eromedical evac: U.S. Air Force Chief Master Sgt. Stephanie Cates, Third Air Force command chief, middle left, and U.S. Air Force Maj. Gen. Paul Moga, Third Air Force commander, middle right, participate in a simulated aeromedical evacuation exercise at Ramstein Air Base, Germany, Dec. 12, 2024. The visit provided the opportunity for the leadership team to connect with Airmen, observe day-to-day operations and gain insight on the wing's priorities and ability to execution its mission. (U.S. Air Force photo by Airman 1st Class Trevor Calvert)▼



ight ops: A U.S. Air Force F-16 Fighting Falcon, assigned to the 480th Fighter Squadron, conducts night operations on a runway at Spangdahlem Air Base, Germany, Dec. 9, 2024. The 480th FS participates in night operations to give pilots a hands-on opportunity to train on F-16 techniques in hours of darkness. (U.S. Air Force photo by Airman 1st Class Sydney Franklin) ◀

# U.S. and Philippine Air Forces complete Dynamic Force Employment exercise



#### By Staff Sgt. Christopher Tam **U.S. Pacific Air Forces**

CLARK AIR BASE, Philippines -- U.S. Air Force A-10 Thunderbolt IIs assigned to the 25th Fighter Squadron completed a Dynamic Force Employment exercise with the Philippine Air Force at Clark Air Base, Philippines, Dec. 9-13, 2024. U.S. Pacific Air Forces Airmen conducted integrated training with Philippine Air Force Airmen, offering pilots and maintenance teams a valuable opportunity to strengthen shared skills and enhance the two forces' interoperability.

Dynamic Force Employment, or DFE, is an operational strategy across the Joint Force to remain strategically predictable, but operationally unpredictable, in an ever-evolving, challenging, and contested environment.

The bilateral training conducted with the Philippine Air Force consisted of pilots, maintainers, and other support assets, utilizing the minimal amount of personnel and equipment possible to conduct flight operations within the Philippines at different spoke locations. The hub and spoke training missions demonstrated the combined air forces' ability to rapidly project air power and sustain such flight operations across

Two U.S. Air Force A-10 Thunderbolt IIs assigned to the 25th Fighter Squadron taxi before a flight back to Osan Air Base from Clark Air Base, Philippines, Dec. 14, 2024. The A-10s participated in bilateral training with the Philippine Air Force as part of a Dynamic Force Employment exercise, strengthening trust, enhancing regional security, and promoting shared values under international law. (U.S. Air Force photo by Staff Sgt. Christopher Tam)▲



U.S. Air Force Senior Airman Ke'von Heath, 25th Fighter Generation Squadron dedicated crew chief, removes chalks before a flight at Clark Air Base, Philippines, Dec. 14, 2024. The A-10s are participating in bilateral training with the Philippine Air Force as part of a Dynamic Force Employment exercise, strengthening trust, enhancing regional security, and promoting shared values under international law. (U.S. Air Force photo by Staff Sgt. Christopher Tam)

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dispersed locations. "DFE's are important because it allows us to project airpower at the time and place of our choosing with as small footprint as possible at the location we conduct these DFE's at," said Maj. Gregory St. Clair, Pacific Air Forces chief of future operations. "In addition to that it allows us to train closely with our allies and partners which is our greatest strength."

Philippine military enhanced cooperation.

location we conduct these DFE's at.

of future operations "Flying with the Philippine Air Force has been incredible, I was blown away by how willing they were to work and engage with us to continue to strengthen this alliance we have in the Indo-Pacific," said Capt. Ben Burmester, 25th Fighter Squadron project officer. "We continue to promote stability and freedom to all our partners in the region"

Pacific region.

## NEWS

EJECTION

#### CRIMSON SKY | PAGE 25

U.S. Air Force Staff Sgt. Charles Durnin, 25th Fighter Generation Squadron Crow. 25th Fig perational initiative. (U.S. Air Force photo y Staff Sgt. Christopher Tam)

The exercise reinforced the two nation's defense partnership and commitment to maintaining a free and open Indo-Pacific. The successful completion of this DFE marks another milestone in U.S.-

DFE's are important because it allows us to project airpower at the time and place of our choosing with as small footprint as possible at the

Maj. Gregory St. Clair, Pacific Air Forces chief

The U.S. Air Force and Philippine Air Force worked together through bilateral training and subject matter expert exchanges to promote interoperability, strengthening our alliance and enhancing security and stability within the Indo-

"The main goal of this DFE was to show we are super close with our allies and partners so that we can train and be effective together," said St. Clair. "DFE's are not a new concept and we will continue to do them in the future and we're only going to get stronger by continuing to do them."





U.S. Air Force Senior Airman Ke'von Heath. 25th Fighter Generation Squadron dedicated crew chief. performs a dre-filgnt checi at Clark Air Base, Philippines, Dec. 14, 2024. The U.S. and **Philippine Air Forces'** security presence supports the peace and stability that have enabled the Indo-Pacific region to develop and prosper for over 70 years. (U.S. Air Force photo by Staff Sgt. Christopher Tam) ◀ ▲

PAGE 26 | CRIMSON SKY

## CRIMSON SKY

**January 10, 2025** 

#### **January 10, 2025**





benefiting over 42,000 islanders.

international partners.

remote island communities.



## **Best Repair Shop for U.S. Troops in Korea!**



**Top Car Repair Body Shop for USFK.** 



All services are available for your cars! **TOWING SERVICE PROVIDED** 

----- LOCATION -------Right in front of Morin Gate at Osan AB 031-667-7878



## **OCD 24 concludes 73 years of bringing** aid to Pacific islands

christmas Drop

Since 1951

The Operation Christmas Drop 2024 logo is displayed on a U.S. Air Force C-130J Super Hercules at Andersen Air Force Base, Guam, Dec. 4, 2024. Conducted annually from Andersen, OCD delivers supplies and gifts to more than 58 remote islands in the Federated States of Micronesia and the Republic of Palau, benefiting over 42,000 islanders. (U.S. Air Force photo by Senior Airman Natalia Doan) ce photo by Senior Airman Natalie Doan

**By Senior Airman Natalie Doan 374th Airlift Wing Public Affairs** 

ANDERSEN AIR FORCE BASE, Guam --

Operation Christmas Drop 2024 concluded Dec. 14, marking 73 years of delivering aid to some of the most isolated communities in the world. Over two weeks, C-130J Super Hercules and C-130H Hercules aircrews from the United States, Japan, South Korea, Australia, and Canada came together to deliver 220 bundles totaling more than 77,000 pounds to over 58 remote islands in the Federated States of Micronesia and Republic of Palau,

Each bundle contained essential goods such as clothing, food, medical supplies, and fishing equipment donated by local organizations and

While OCD is the longest-running Department of Defense humanitarian aid mission, it also serves as an opportunity for participating aircrews to hone the coordination and execution skills needed to support future contingencies in the region. In completing 29 operational sorties, pilots and loadmasters alike acquired real-world experience in conducting low-cost, low-altitude airdrops to

U.S. Air Force Master Sgt. Michael DeMik, the operations superintendent for the 36th Airlift Squadron at Yokota Air Base, Japan, believes the experience gained during OCD 24 helps prepare aircrews for even more real-world operations in the future.

"This year's OCD mission not only delivered vital supplies to the people of the Federated States of Micronesia and the Republic of Palau but also gave our crew members a unique opportunity to refine the humanitarian assistance and disaster relief skills they may need to deploy at a moment's notice," he said. "Delivering aid across the Indo-Pacific region is just one of the many critical tasks our highly versatile crews excel at.'

For the first time in the 374th Airlift Wing's long-standing history of supporting OCD, forces deployed to Guam as part of the 374th Air Expeditionary Wing in order to test Agile Combat Employment capabilities in the Indo-Pacific theater. The wing's shift to the ACE concept comes on the heels of a recent visit made by Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. David Allvin to Yokota Air Base, Japan, during which he emphasized the importance of ACE in addressing future challenges.

U.S. Air Force Col. Brett Cochran, the deputy commander for the 374th AW at Yokota Air Base, Japan, highlighted the significance of this transition and lauded the adaptability of OCD 24 aircrews.

"The advent of the 374th Air Expeditionary Wing is a reflection of our determination to learn how to quickly adapt our teams — both combined and joint — for effective operations within an increasingly diffuse national security environment," he said. "Our AEW aircrews from five nations leveraged their training to conduct

airdrops in a way that we don't normally do. Within this dynamic operational environment, in an area of responsibility that spanned roughly the size of the U.S., we were able to flawlessly deliver 100% of the bundles."

As the final bundle of OCD 24 landed, the impact of the mission could not only be seen in the smiles of the islanders, but also in the pride of the aircrews. For many Yokota Airmen who supported OCD, the operation is more than a mission — it's an annual opportunity to remember why they do what they do.

"This mission is a reminder of the impact and good we can do for the world," said U.S. Air Force Capt. Jordan Paecht, OCD 24 deputy mission commander. "Seeing the islanders wave as we fly away and later watching videos of them celebrating the airdrops — it's a reminder of how many people we've helped. Experiencing it firsthand makes me really proud to be a Herk pilot."

For U.S. Air Force Capt. Miranda Bapty, OCD 24 mission commander, seeing videos of islanders opening dropped bundles were the gratifying moments that culminated months of preparation and planning.

"Some of the most rewarding moments for me and my team were seeing the videos of the islanders receiving their bundles," she said. "It's an amazing experience getting to see the reactions from the air, but hearing their joy in those videos will stay with us the rest of our lives. This was a life-changing experience for us all."

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## NEWS

#### **January 10, 2025**

#### January 10, 2025







# Pride of the Pack

**By Senior Airman James Johnson** 8th Fighter Wing Public Affairs

KUNSAN AIR BASE, Republic of Korea -- Staff Sgt. Kimberly Gracia, 8th Health Care Operations Squadron diagnostics & therapeutics non-commissioned officer in charge, was awarded the 8th Fighter Wing's 'Pride of the Pack' for the week of Dec. 16-20.

Gracia took charge of multiple critical initiatives, enhancing the wing's medical readiness. She led the organization of eight influenza mass vaccination events across 25 squadrons.

Gracia's leadership resulted in the wing achieving a remarkable 95% influenza immunization readiness rate, which ranked #1 for Pacific Air Forces, surpassing 8 other AF wings in just one month.

Additionally, Gracia developed and implemented a memorandum of understanding with Travis Air Force Base, guaranteeing 24/7 teleradiology support for the 8th FW.

This ensures the Wolf Pack receives timely and efficient diagnostic services, critical to maintaining operational capability at all times.

Gracia also led the management of over \$631.5K worth of radiology equipment, completing over 800 x-ray examinations annually.

Her proactive approach to managing her department's resources, combined with her impeccable organizational skills, highlights her readiness for increased responsibilities and her unwavering dedication to the mission.

Thank you, Staff Sgt. Gracia, for your exceptional leadership, dedication, and hard work.

Congratulations on winning this week's 'Pride of the Pack'!

U.S. Air Force Staff Sgt. Kimberly Gracia, 8th Health Care Operations Squadron diagnostics & therapeutics non-commissioned officer in charge, poses for a photo next to an x-ray machine at Kunsan Air Base, Republic of Korea, Dec. 18, 2024. Gracia was selected as the 8th Fighter Wing's 'Pride of the Pack' for the week of Dec. 16-20. (U.S. Air Force photo by Senior Airman James Johnson) 🛦



U.S. Air Force Staff Sgt. Kimberly Gracia, 8th Health Care Operations Squadron diagnostics & therapeutics non-commissioned officer in charge, calibrates an x-ray machine at Kunsan Air Base, Republic of Korea, Dec. 18, 2024. Gracia is responsible for providing x-rays to patients of the base. (U.S. Air Force photo by Senior Airman James Johnson)

## NEWS

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Republic of Korea Lt. Gen. Hyoung Soo Kim, ROK Air Force Operations Command commander, greets U.S. Army Gen. Xavier T. Brunson, United Nations Command, Combined Forces Command and United States Forces Korea commander, outside of the Air Operations Center during a base visit at Osan Air Base, Republic of Korea, Jan. 8, 2025. Brunson met with U.S. and ROK Air Force leaders at Osan to gain an improved understanding of the 51st Fighter Wing and Combined Air Component Command's missions. (U.S. Air Force photo by Master Sgt. Rachelle Coleman) ◀



U.S. Army Gen. Xavier T. Brunson, right, United Nations Command, Combined Forces Command and United States Forces Korea commander, discusses the capabilities of an F-16 Fighting Falcon with U.S. Air Force Lt. Gen. David R. Iverson, Seventh Air Force commander, during a visit at Osan Air Base, Republic of Korea, Jan. 8, 2025. The USFK commander learned about the 51st FW Fight Tonight mission, further bolstering his understanding of combat capabilities across the Korean peninsula. (U.S. Air Force photo by Senior Airman Sabrina Fuller-Judd) ▲

U.S. Army Gen. Xavier T. Brunson, United Nations Command, Combined Forces Command and United States Forces Korea commander, views an F-16 Fighting Falcon during a visit at Osan Air Base, Republic of Korea, Jan. 8, 2025. As a general officer, Brunson has served in numerous staff and command positions in conventional and special operations forces. (U.S. Air Force photo by Senior Airman Sabrina Fuller-Judd) ◀

## CULTURE





Seollal, Lunar New Year's Day, is one of Korea's main holidays. The holiday takes place on the first day of the new year according to the lunar calendar and serves as a time for people to greet each other with words of blessing for the year ahead. During the holiday period, Koreans also participate in ancestral memorial services, bow to their elders, and play traditional games. Read on to find out more on Seollal traditions and practice!

#### Korean cooking: tteokguk & jeon

The first Seollal experience is eating a tasty bowl of tteokguk (rice cake soup). Tteokguk is one of Korea's original dishes, and is traditionally eaten for the New Year. The dish is made by boiling thinly sliced white rice cakes in a clear soybean soup. Before eating, each bowl is garnished with meat, green onion, and egg; mandu (dumplings) can also be added for a more filling meal.

Be sure to follow this simple tip to make the tteokguk taste even better if you try it at home! Before putting the rice cakes in the soup to boil, wash them with cold water and let them soak for about 30 minutes. This will make the rice cakes softer, the boiling time shorter, and give the soup a clear taste. After they have soaked in the cold water, put the rice cakes in the boiling soup. To finalize your dish, artfully arrange the garnish for a dish as beautiful as it is tasty.



Another main Seoallal food includes two types of jeon (savory pancakes) to go with the tteokguk. Jeon is made by lightly coating vegetables, meat, or slices of fish in flour and an egg wash before frying in a small amount of oil. Jeon can be eaten at any time, but it is customary to have them at Seollal and Chuseok (Korean Thanksgiving Day). The name of each jeon is based on the main ingredient, such as gul jeon (batter-fried ovster), beoseot jeon (batter-fried mushroom), or hobak jeon (batter-fried zucchini). For Seollal, the most commonly prepared jeon are dongtae jeon (batter-fried pollack fillets) and yugwonjeon (batter-fried meatballs).

Dongtae jeon is made by warming thinly sliced dried pollack before marinating them in a mix of salt, pepper, and clear rice wine. After dabbing off any remaining moisture,



the marinated slices are lightly coated with flour, dipped in an egg wash, and pan-fried over mid-low heat. Yugwonjeon on the other hand requires a bit more preparation. The meatball is made from mixing ground beef, tofu, garlic, and other seasoning ingredients together; the key to good yugwonjeon is making sure there is very little blood and water remaining in the meat and tofu, respectively. After mixing the ingredients fully together, it is rolled into small balls, lightly flattened in the palm of one's hand, and then follows the same steps as dongtae jeon: flour, egg wash, fry! In order to fully cook the inside of the meatballs, keep the heat low.



#### **New Year's bow**

the gongsu position, are lifted up to one's forehead, while turning one's head down to look at their feet. The hands will be held at this position throughout the bow until returning to the first standing position. At this point, the woman lowers her body slowly and kneels, starting with the left knee and then the right. From here, she sits down fully and then bends forward at the waist to about a 45 degree angle for three seconds. From here, simply reverse the process, sitting up straight, kneeling, standing on the right foot and then the left, before returning both hands to the gongsu position.

For the male version of the New Year's bow, the hands held in the gongsu position are lifted up and out in a round motion to shoulder-height before being dropped down to the floor. Men also start kneeling with the left knee and then the right before sitting down. While women only have to bend slightly, men must bow further, lowering their backs to create a flat line. Their elbows should be placed on the floor and their forehead should hover slightly over their hands on the ground. If done properly, there will be a straight, flat line from the top of the head to the buttocks. After holding this position for three seconds, lift the elbows from the ground and sit straight up, place the right foot on the ground and use the hands in the gongsu position to push off from the right knee. After standing, lift one's hands to their eyes before returning to the original gongsu position.



#### **Playing yunnori**

## CULTURE

After dressing in hanbok, it is only fitting to give a proper New Year's bow. Families gather together on the day of Seollal, and all members will give a New Year's bow to the elders of the family after completing the ancestral memorial rites. The bow is different for men and women, but both must pay important attention to their gongsu (hand position). For men, the hands are held lightly in front of the body with the left hand over their right; for women, the right hand is over the left. For the female version of the New Year's bow, the hands, still held in

#### **Wearing hanbok**

Another key part of Seollal is wearing hanbok! Korea's traditional clothing, the des, ceremonial events like weddings and during memorial services. Traditional hanbok can be a bit tricky to wear, as the clothes are quite billowy.

The most difficult step to wearing hanbok is correctly tying the goreum (ribbon). The ribbon keeps the jacket closed and in place, so it is quite important! While you could just make any type of ribbon or even a simple knot, doing it the proper way creates a beautifully finished image. To make the proper ribbon, cross the right-hand goreum over the top of the left before pulling it back up through the two to tie them together. At this point, place your left hand over the tie and wrap the top goreum once around your hand, down the back and up the palm. With your right hand, create a ribbon shape with the hanging goreum and pass it through the goreum looped over your left hand. After this, simply tighten and adjust to make it picture perfect. If you have tied the goreum correctly, there should only be about a 5-centimeter difference in the two goreum ends.

The last experience for Seollal is playing yunnori, a folk game that can be played by all! The game can be played with as few as two people; with more people, the players divide into two teams. Each team is given four game markers they must move around the board. The number of spaces they can move is based on the results of throwing four sticks in the air. The sticks are made of chestnut wood and have one flat side, while the opposite rounded side is marked with "X"s. The first team to get all four game pieces around the board wins!

ooking to try some traditional activities for yourself? Plan a visit to Namsangol Hanok Village, National Folk Museum of Korea, Korean Folk Village, Korea House, HIKR Ground, Insa-dong PR Center, or Unhyeongung Royal Residence! These locations have a variety of traditional culture experience programs to enjoy!



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