

# Crimson Sky

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## Training, Rendering, & Evaluating TCCC: 51st FW executes tactical combat casualty care during FS25

U.S. Air Force Airmen assigned to the 51st Fighter Wing provide tactical combat casualty care to simulated casualties during Freedom Shield 25 at Osan Air Base, Republic of Korea, Mar. 11, 2025. The life-saving TCCC procedures can be rendered by any service member, to oneself or one another, when injuries are sustained in a combat environment. During Freedom Shield 25, units across Seventh Air Force validated several agile combat employment capabilities, illustrating the air component's ability to maneuver forces and supplies rapidly, projecting and sustaining airpower from numerous locations across the region. (U.S. Air Force photo by Master Sgt. Jerilyn Quintanilla) ▲

By Staff Sgt. Kahdija Slaughter, 51st Fighter Wing Public Affairs

**OSAN AIR BASE, Republic of Korea** – “Train as if you’re going to be that differentiating factor between a person and their grave.”

This is the ‘Wingman-first’ warrior ethos Master Sgt. Julynn Gonzalez, 51st Fighter Wing tactical combat casualty care advisor, shares with each TCCC class she instructs.

The 51st FW Inspector General wing exercises office practiced and evaluated TCCC, among other combat response capabilities, during Freedom Shield 25 at Osan Air Base, Republic of Korea, March 10-21, 2025.

Freedom Shield 25 is a U.S. Forces Korea-level, defense-oriented exercise focused on fortifying response capabilities to safeguard security on the Korean peninsula. Units across Seventh Air Force integrated air power into the combined, joint all-domain training event, executing a whole-of-force focus on realistic combat training.

Since realistic combat training can include acute life altering injuries and casualties, the TCCC program managers at the 51st FW prepared instructors and trained personnel across the installation ahead of the exercise.

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8th SFS continues to build defensive posture during Freedom Shield 25



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Air Force major pilots NASA's SpaceX Crew-10 mission



# Seventh Air Force 2024 annual awards

## 8th Fighter Wing Public Affairs

**KUNSAN AIR BASE, Republic of Korea** -- The 8th Fighter Wing hosted the Seventh Air Force Annual Awards ceremony to honor the 2024 annual award winners across the numbered Air Force, Feb. 28.

The event highlighted the dedication and excellence of Airmen whose leadership recognized them for their outstanding performance throughout the year.

During the ceremony, U.S. Air Force Lt. Gen. David R. Iverson, Seventh Air Force commander, honored the night's award winners, highlighting their exceptional leadership and contributions to the mission.

"I am humbled by the quality of Airmen produced particularly here in Seventh Air Force, and our focus on the mission and location makes it important to focus on that 'fight tonight' mentality," said Iverson. "This is truly amazing work -- thank you for being away from home, the long hours, and the defense of the nation."

This year's awards process was particularly special, as Seventh Air Force implemented new ways to recognize its exceptional Airmen, both past and present.

"We did a couple new things for our nominees this year," said Chief Master Sgt. Jeremiah Ross, Seventh Air Force command chief. "All nominees attended three days of mission immersions across both Osan and Kunsan air bases where they were exposed to mission areas that they do not see daily. These events not only provided opportunities for networking across the peninsula but also reinforced the why and how we defend the Korean peninsula."

"We also named two of our annual awards after former Seventh Air Force Airmen who exemplified what it means to be a multi-capable airman before we began using this term in modern day," Ross added.

The Airman of the Year and NCO of the Year categories were named in honor of Chief Master Sgt. Melvin D. Cooper and Master Sgt. Royce L. Worthington.

- Retired Chief Master Sgt. Melvin D. Cooper:** While assigned to the 8th Supply Squadron at Kunsan Air Base in 1983, then-Airman 1st Class Cooper extinguished flames on a fellow Airman engulfed by a fuel fire and moved him to safety. He was named Wolf Pack Proud Warrior for his actions. Cooper later returned to Kunsan in 2005 as a senior master sergeant, serving as the 8th Logistics Readiness Squadron's Fuels Management Flight superintendent.
- Master Sgt. Royce L. Worthington:** Serving as a medic at Pleiku Air Base in Vietnam from 1967-1968, then-Staff Sgt. Worthington volunteered for over 200 hours flying Dustoff missions with the 498th Air Ambulance Company and 283rd Medical Detachment. He is credited with over 100 battlefield saves. Worthington also provided medical care to local Montagnard villagers.

- The following members were named the Seventh AF annual award winners for 2024:
- Civilian Category I** - Mr. Sang Song Kim - 51st Fighter Wing
  - Civilian Category II** - Mr. Si Pak - 51st Fighter Wing
  - Civilian Category III** - Mr. Kwang Eun Park - 8th Fighter Wing
  - Key Support Liason** - Mrs. Miranda Cornett - 51st Fighter Wing
  - Chief Master Sgt. Melvin D. Cooper Airman of the Year** - Senior Airman Adam Olea - 8th Fighter Wing
  - Master Sgt. Royce L. Worthington NCO of the Year** - Tech Sgt. Benjamin Harrison - Seventh Air Force
  - Senior NCO of the Year** - Senior Master Sgt. Shelly Schofield - 8th Fighter Wing
  - Company Grade Officer of the Year** - Maj. Andrew Fenner - Seventh Air Force
  - Field Grade Officer of the Year** - Maj. Kevin Dugan - 8th Fighter Wing
  - First Sergeant of the Year** - Senior Master Sgt. Emily DeJesus - 51st Fighter Wing
  - Honor Guard Program Manager of the Year** - Tech. Sgt. Jeffery Herron - 8th Fighter Wing
  - Honor Guard Member of the Year** - Senior Airman Eryk Martin - 51st Fighter Wing
  - Team of the Year** - 621st Air Control Squadron, Alpha Flight - 60Seventh Air Operations Center

Congratulations to all Seventh Air Force winners and best of luck to those who are competing at the next level!



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# Kunsan Wolves takes charge in Freedom Shield 25



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

KUNSAN AIR BASE, Republic of Korea -- The 8th Fighter Wing mobilizes forces and supplies rapidly to kickstart Freedom Shield 25 at Kunsan Air Base, Republic of Korea, March 9, 2025.

Units across Seventh Air Force, including the 8th FW, validated several agile combat employment capabilities, illustrating the air component's ability to maneuver forces and supplies rapidly, projecting and sustaining air power from numerous locations across the region.

Senior Airman Jordan Gilronan, 8th Logistics Readiness Squadron outbound cargo technician, prepares cargo to be deployed to a simulated forward location during Freedom Shield 25 at Kunsan Air Base, Republic of Korea, March 9, 2025. Members assigned to the 8th Fighter Wing, under Seventh Air Force, participated in large-scale, realistic training to strengthen interoperability, reinforce the ROK-U.S. combined defense posture and increase combat readiness. (U.S. Air Force photo by Senior Airman Maria Umanzor Guzman) ►



An F-16 Fighting Falcon aircraft takes off from the flight line during Freedom Shield 25 at Kunsan Air Base, Republic of Korea, March 9, 2025. Airmen assigned to the 8th Fighter Wing, under Seventh Air Force, participated in large-scale, realistic training to strengthen interoperability, reinforce the ROK-U.S. combined defense posture and increase combat readiness. (U.S. Air Force photo by Senior Airman Maria Umanzor Guzman) ▲

Airmen assigned to the 8th Fighter Wing conduct and process through a personnel deployment function line during Freedom Shield 25 at Kunsan Air Base, Republic of Korea, March 9, 2025. Members assigned to the 8th Fighter Wing, under Seventh Air Force, participated in large-scale, realistic training to strengthen interoperability, reinforce the ROK-U.S. combined defense posture and increase combat readiness. (U.S. Air Force photo by Senior Airman Maria Umanzor Guzman) ►



Airman 1st Class Eddin Hall, 8th Logistics Readiness Squadron outbound cargo technician, prepares cargo to be deployed to a simulated forward location during Freedom Shield 25 at Kunsan Air Base, Republic of Korea, March 9, 2025. Airmen assigned to the 8th Fighter Wing, under Seventh Air Force, participated in large-scale, realistic training to strengthen interoperability, reinforce the ROK-U.S. combined defense posture and increase combat readiness. (U.S. Air Force photo by Senior Airman Maria Umanzor Guzman) ▲



Airmen assigned to the 8th Fighter Wing board a bus after completing a personnel deployment function line during Freedom Shield 25 at Kunsan Air Base, Republic of Korea, March 9, 2025. Airmen assigned to the 8th Fighter Wing, under Seventh Air Force, participated in large-scale, realistic training to strengthen interoperability, reinforce the ROK-U.S. combined defense posture and increase combat readiness. (U.S. Air Force photo by Senior Airman Maria Umanzor Guzman) ▲

Airman 1st Class Eddin Hall, 8th Logistics Readiness Squadron prepare to load cargo from a vehicle during a cargo deployment function line during Freedom Shield 25 at Kunsan Air Base, Republic of Korea, March 9, 2025. Units across Seventh Air Force, including the 8th Fighter Wing, validated several agile combat employment capabilities, illustrating the air component's ability to maneuver forces and supplies rapidly, projecting and sustaining air power from numerous locations across the region. (U.S. Air Force photo by Senior Airman Maria Umanzor Guzman) ►



Airmen assigned to the 8th Fighter Wing don mission oriented protective posture gear during Freedom Shield 25 at Kunsan Air Base, Republic of Korea, March 9, 2025. Units across Seventh Air Force, including the 8th Fighter Wing, validated several agile combat employment capabilities, illustrating the air component's ability to maneuver forces and supplies rapidly, projecting and sustaining air power from numerous locations across the region. (U.S. Air Force photo by Senior Airman Maria Umanzor Guzman) ▲





# Osan AB accepts follow-on expeditionary forces

By Staff Sgt. Jason W. Cochran  
51st Fighter Wing

OSAN AIR BASE, Republic of Korea -- Personnel across Seventh Air Force are participating in large-scale, realistic training to strengthen interoperability, reinforce the ROK-U.S. combined defense posture and increase combat readiness. Airmen from other units arrived to Osan Air Base to serve as augmentees in support of training operations.

U.S. Air Force Staff Sgt. Chris Denny, 51st Force Support Squadron augmentee, briefs augmentees for exercise Freedom Shield 25 at Osan Air Base, Republic of Korea, March 1, 2025. Exercise Freedom Shield 25 is a regularly conducted training designed to test command and control elements within U.S. Forces Korea. As part of the exercise, augmentees from across the U.S. Air and Space Force were transported, in-processed and housed at Osan AB, illustrating the ability to maneuver forces and supplies rapidly. ▼



U.S. Air Force Senior Airman Gabriel Smith, Pacific Air Simulation Center targeting analyst, unpacks his luggage in contingency lodging at Osan Air Base, Republic of Korea, March 1, 2025. In a contingency situation, the 51st Fighter Wing would be expected to provide combat airpower and accept follow-on forces. Exercises like Freedom Shield 25 are crucial to test and ensure the capability to receive, sustain and employ these follow-on forces, illustrating the air component's ability to maneuver forces. ▼



U.S. Air Force Tech. Sgt. Francis Atchoe, 51st Force Support Squadron augmentee right, in-processes an augmentee for exercise Freedom Shield 25 at Osan Air Base, Republic of Korea, March 1, 2025. Exercise Freedom Shield 25 is a regularly conducted training designed to test command and control elements within U.S. Forces Korea. As part of the exercise, augmentees from across the U.S. Air and Space Force were transported, in-processed and housed at Osan, validating several agile combat employment capabilities and illustrating the air component's ability to maneuver forces. ►

U.S. Air Force augmentees assigned to the 51st Force Support Squadron's personnel support contingency operations team in-process augmentees for exercise Freedom Shield 25 at Osan Air Base, Republic of Korea, March 1, 2025. The PERSCO team, composed of augmentees from across the U.S. Air Force, tested and demonstrated higher headquarters' ability to select, deploy and employ advance teams in a simulated contingency environment. ▲



U.S. Air Force Master Sgt. Monique Walker, 51st Force Support Squadron augmentee, left, gives guidance to U.S. Air Force Tech. Sgt. Francis Atchoe, 51st FSS augmentee, about the in-processing of augmentees for exercise Freedom Shield 25 at Osan Air Base, Republic of Korea, March 1, 2025. The personnel support contingency operations team at Osan AB was composed of augmentees from across the U.S. Air and Space Force. This tested and demonstrated higher headquarters' ability to select, deploy and employ advance teams in a simulated contingency environment. ▲





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A U.S. Air Force medic assigned to the 51st Fighter Wing applies a bandage to a simulated casualty during Freedom Shield 25 at Osan Air Base, Republic of Korea, Mar. 11, 2025. Service members assigned to the 51st Fighter Wing practiced administering tactical combat casualty care procedures during several simulated mass casualty scenarios, reinforcing time sensitive life-saving skills required for combined defense and air power generation capabilities. A core training objective during FS25 is de-escalation and employment of Armistice mechanisms to provide off-ramps to conflict. (U.S. Air Force photo by Master Sgt. Jerilyn Quintanilla) ►

**Training, Rendering, & Evaluating TCCC: 51st FW executes tactical combat casualty care during FS25**  
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“We’re always on the lookout for individuals who are motivated to teach TCCC,” explained Gonzalez. “Once a new instructor is identified, I coordinate a Train the Trainer Course with TCCC coordinators at the [51st Medical Group]. After they complete the course, they’re ready to lead TCCC classes within their unit on Osan AB, Camp Humphreys, or other units across the Korean peninsula.”

The TCCC course is the Department of the Air Force’s standard of care for first responders (medical and non-medical) and pertains to all service members and Department of Defense expeditionary civilians.

A U.S. Air Force member assigned to the 51st Fighter Wing triages a simulated casualty during Freedom Shield 25 at Osan Air Base, Republic of Korea, Mar. 11, 2025. Freedom Shield 25 is a defense-oriented exercise focused on fortifying response capabilities to safeguard security on the peninsula. The 51st FW Inspector General exercise planning office tested and evaluated the wing’s execution of tactical combat casualty care in a variety of realistic combat training scenarios during FS 25. (U.S. Air Force photo by Master Sgt. Jerilyn Quintanilla) ►



U.S. Air Force medics transport a simulated casualty to the Urgent Care Center during Freedom Shield 25 at Osan Air Base, Republic of Korea, Mar. 11, 2025. Freedom Shield 25 is a defense-oriented exercise focused on fortifying response capabilities to safeguard security on the peninsula. Transporting an injured person after performing tactical combat casualty care is a process that’s regularly practiced during exercises at Osan. (U.S. Air Force photo by Master Sgt. Jerilyn Quintanilla) ►

***“Our ability to fight tonight is massively affected by the tactical level Airmen’s ability to render simple life saving interventions to an injured wingman at a moment’s notice.”***  
— Master Sgt. Joshua Walker

The course curriculum provided by the Defense Health Agency addresses three trauma care scenarios: care under fire, tactical field care, and tactical evacuation; each of which cumulatively aim to provide prehospital, trauma life support while in a tactical, austere, or contingency environment.

“As a trained medic and now five-plus year TCCC instructor, my primary goal is to ensure [non-medical personnel] understand how to control massive hemorrhaging as quickly as possible,” explained Master Sgt. Joshua Walker, 51st FW Inspector General superintendent of wing exercises and TCCC instructor. “My second goal is for them to constantly reevaluate the effectiveness of applied interventions, [such as tourniquet or quick clot,] to ensure bleeding stays controlled. Thirdly, members need to rapidly coordinate transfer to a medical treatment facility. Medical assets are extremely limited, and Airmen need to understand arranging a vehicle of opportunity for transport is key to survival.”

Osan Airmen typically take the TCCC course prior to arriving on station. However, hands-on instructional training, such as in-unit refresher classes, and impromptu evaluation opportunities, allow personnel assigned to the 51st FW to keep the life-saving knowledge top of mind.

“Here at Osan, we conduct the largest and most rigorous combat readiness exercises in the Air Force. This provides our installation more opportunities to practice these life-saving interventions in realistic scenarios based on the threats in this theater,” said Walker.

Equipping individual servicemembers with acute life-saving skills helps protect the most valuable Department of Defense asset – the human life.

Reflecting on the impact TCCC has had in past military conflicts, Walker shares the important role it has on safeguarding security on the peninsula.

“Our ability to fight tonight is massively affected by the tactical level Airmen’s ability to render simple life saving interventions to an injured wingman at a moment’s notice.”

U.S. Air Force medics transport a simulated casualty to the 51st Medical Group Urgent Care Center during Freedom Shield 25 at Osan Air Base, Republic of Korea, Mar. 11, 2025. Freedom Shield 25 is a defense-oriented exercise focused on fortifying response capabilities to safeguard security on the peninsula. Transporting an injured person after performing tactical combat casualty care is a regularly practiced process during recurring exercises at Osan. (U.S. Air Force photo by Master Sgt. Jerilyn Quintanilla) ►







Airmen assigned to the 8th Security Forces Squadron act as an opposing force strike team to ambush 8th SFS Defenders to test their ability to quickly counter base threats during Freedom Shield 25 at Kunsan Air Base, Republic of Korea, March 11, 2025. FS 25 provides large-scale, realistic training to strengthen interoperability, increase combat readiness and reinforce the ROK-U.S. combined defense posture.

# 8th SFS continues to build defensive posture during Freedom Shield 25

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

KUNSAN AIR BASE, Republic of Korea -- Members of the 8th Security Forces Squadron respond to an inject during exercise Freedom Shield 25.

Airmen assigned to the 8th Fighter Wing, under Seventh Air Force, participated in large-scale, realistic training to strengthen interoperability, reinforce the ROK-U.S. combined defense posture and increase combat readiness.

FS25 is a defense-oriented exercise featuring live, virtual, and field-based training that engages alliance forces and governmental agencies.

Senior Airman Nathan Barbaza, 8th Security Forces Squadron response force leader, loads his weapon in response to a simulated ground attack training during Freedom Shield 25 at Kunsan Air Base, Republic of Korea, March 11, 2025. FS 25 provides large-scale, realistic training to strengthen interoperability, increase combat readiness and reinforce the ROK-U.S. combined defense posture. (U.S. Air Force photo by Senior Airman Maria Umanzor Guzman)▶



U.S. Air Force Airman Zion Mosley, 8th Security Forces Squadron member, looks for opposing forces while responding to a simulated ground attack during Freedom Shield 25 at Kunsan Air Base, Republic of Korea, March 11, 2025. FS25 is a defense-oriented exercise featuring live, virtual, and field-based training that engages alliance forces and governmental agencies across the Korean Peninsula. (U.S. Air Force photo by Senior Airman Maria Umanzor Guzman)▶



U.S. Air Force Staff Sgt. Antonio Carrion, 8th Security Forces Squadron opposing force strike team member, prepares to ambush 8th SFS defenders in a simulated ground attack training during Freedom Shield 25 at Kunsan Air Base, Republic of Korea, March 11, 2025. FS25 is a defense-oriented exercise featuring live, virtual, and field-based training that engages alliance forces and governmental agencies across the Korean Peninsula. (U.S. Air Force photo by Senior Airman Maria Umanzor Guzman)▲



A Wing Inspection Team identifier is fixed to the vest of an 8th Security Forces Squadron member during simulated ground attack for Freedom Shield 25 at Kunsan Air Base, Republic of Korea, March 11, 2025. Airmen assigned to the 8th FW, under Seventh Air Force, participated in large-scale, realistic training to strengthen interoperability, reinforce the ROK-U.S. combined defense posture and increase combat readiness. (U.S. Air Force photo by Senior Airman Maria Umanzor Guzman)▲

U.S. Air Force Tech. Sgt. Daniel Elmore, left, and Tech. Sgt. Rafael Mauricio, 8th Security Forces Squadron Wing Inspection Team members, discuss and evaluate ground attack procedures during Freedom Shield 25 at Kunsan Air Base, Republic of Korea, March 11, 2025. FS25 is a defense-oriented exercise featuring live, virtual, and field-based training that engages alliance forces and governmental agencies across the Korean Peninsula. (U.S. Air Force photo by Senior Airman Maria Umanzor Guzman)▶



Senior Airman Nathan Barbaza, 8th Security Forces Squadron response force leader, stands ready for action of opposing forces in a simulated ground attack training during Exercise Freedom Shield 25 at Kunsan Air Base, Republic of Korea, March 11, 2025. Airmen assigned to the 8th Fighter Wing, under Seventh Air Force, participated in large-scale, realistic training to strengthen interoperability, reinforce the ROK-U.S. combined defense posture and increase combat readiness. (U.S. Air Force photo by Senior Airman Maria Umanzor Guzman)▲





# Dragon Brigades Fittest Soldier? Army Spc. Scores perfect fitness test score

By Capt. Courtney Johnson  
35th Air Defense Artillery Brigade  
Public Affairs Office

**Camp Carroll, Korea** – Spc. Laderrian M. Thompkins has his sights set even higher! This Columbus, Georgia native and valued member of the Supply Support Activity Platoon, Echo Battery, 2-1 Air Defense Artillery Battalion, smashed the Army Combat Fitness Test on February 20th, 2025 with an incredible score of 613.

This achievement is even more impressive considering Spc. Thompkins’s relentless pursuit of excellence. He previously tackled the ACFT four times, achieving near-perfect scores of 593, 595, and 599, proving his dedication to exceeding the Army’s standard of two tests per year.

When asked about his training regimen, Spc. Thompkins shared, “When I trained, I mainly focused on my running, endurance, and cutting down my weight about five pounds while still focusing on muscle building and endurance.”

“Spc Thompkins demonstrated unparalleled fortitude and dedication to physical excellence. He relentlessly pushed his limits, epitomizing the Warrior Ethos and exemplifying the Army’s commitment to peak performance. Spc. Thompkins’s accomplishment serves as an inspiration to peers, fostering a culture of self-improvement within the unit and bringing distinct credit upon himself, his unit, and the United States Army,” commended Sgt. Maj. Randall E. Shorey III, Operations Sgt. Maj. of the 2-1 Air Defense Artillery Battalion.

Spc. Thompkins’s accomplishment aligns perfectly with the 35th Air Defense Artillery Brigade’s “Lead with F.I.R.E.” motto, showcasing exceptional Fitness, Improve, Resiliency, Readiness, and Expertise. He not only achieved an outstanding PT score but also demonstrated his willingness to continuously improve, his readiness to pass the test at any moment, and his expertise in mentoring fellow Soldiers.

“Spc. Thompkins is apart of the area 4 basketball team where they have won 13 tournaments total. He goes to the gym daily to stay physically fit. His success stems from a disciplined training regimen, which combines strength conditioning, cardio, and functional fitness. He embodies the Army values through physical excellence, setting a high standard for his peers as a fitness mentor within our unit” said 1st Sgt. Christopher McClinton, Echo Company.

When asked for final comments, Spc. Thompkins stated, “Always keep God first!”



Spc. Thompkins poses for a photo in front of the 35th ADA Brigade unit symbol (US Army photo by Sgt. Kurtis Martinez) ▲



Spc. Thompkins poses for a photo standing next to his company command team, 1st Sgt. Christopher McClinton (left) and Capt. Jasmine Jackson (right). (US Army photo by Sgt. Kurtis Martinez) ▲



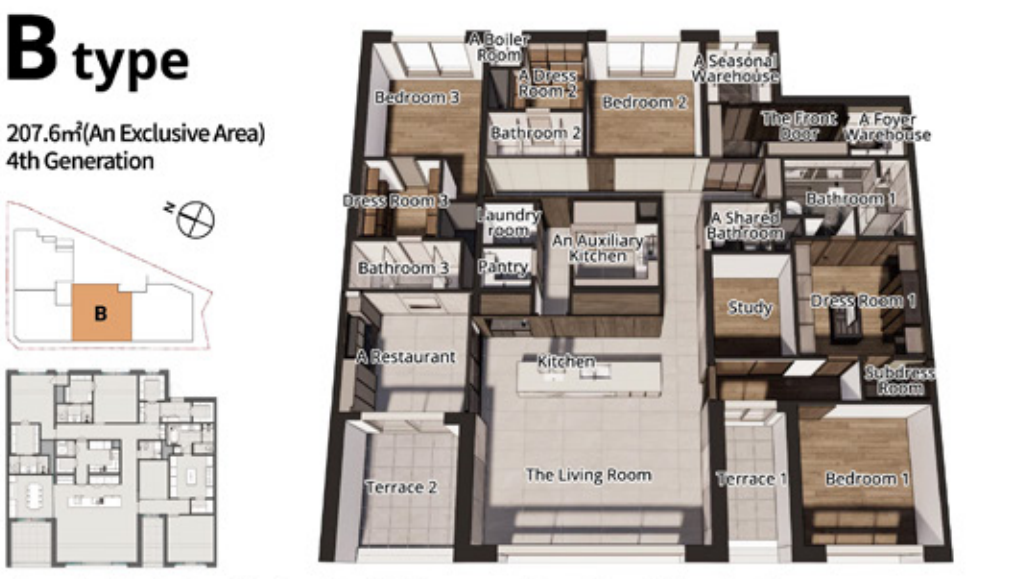
Spc. Thompkins does bicep curls in the Camp Carroll gym. (US Army photo by Sgt. Kurtis Martinez) ▲



Spc. Thompkins does a battle rope exercise in the Camp Carroll gym (US Army photo by Sgt. Kurtis Martinez) ▲



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So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God. (Romans 10:17)

# Fire Extinguisher Safety

Fire extinguishers are crucial safety devices that can prevent small fires from turning into devastating blazes. Understanding how to use them properly and maintaining them regularly is vital for ensuring safety in homes, offices, and public spaces.

**1. Types of Fire Extinguishers.** Fire extinguishers are categorized based on the types of fires they can effectively combat:

- Class A: For ordinary combustibles like wood, paper, and cloth.
- Class B: For flammable liquids such as gasoline, oil, and paint.
- Class C: For electrical fires from appliances, wiring, and circuit breakers.
- Class D: For flammable metals like magnesium and titanium.
- Class K: For cooking oils and fats commonly found in kitchens.

Multi-purpose extinguishers, labeled as A-B-C, are suitable for use on multiple types of fires and are commonly found in homes and workplaces.

**2. Proper Usage.** Knowing how to use a fire extinguisher correctly can make a significant difference during an emergency. The PASS technique is a simple acronym to remember.

- Pull the pin to unlock the operating lever.
- Aim the nozzle at the base of the fire.
- Squeeze the lever slowly and evenly.
- Sweep the nozzle from side to side, covering the area of the fire.

Always ensure there is a clear escape route before attempting to extinguish a fire. If the fire becomes uncontrollable or the room fills with smoke, evacuate immediately and call emergency services.

**3. Maintenance and Inspection.** Regular maintenance and inspection are crucial for ensuring that fire extinguishers function correctly when needed. Follow these guidelines:

- Monthly Inspection:  
Check that the extinguisher is in its designated place, visible, and accessible. Ensure the pressure gauge needle is in the green zone, indicating proper pressure.
- Annual Maintenance:  
Have a professional inspect the extinguisher for signs of damage, corrosion, or leakage. They will also check the hose, nozzle, and locking pin.
- Hydrostatic Testing:  
This test is usually required every 5 to 12 years, depending on the type of extinguisher, to check the integrity of the cylinder.

**4. Best practices:**

- Training: Ensure all household members or employees are trained in the proper use of fire extinguishers.
- Placement: Install extinguishers in easily accessible locations, such as the kitchen, garage, and near exits.
- Signage: Clearly label the locations of fire extinguishers with visible signs to ensure they can be quickly found during an emergency.

Fire extinguisher safety is a critical component of overall fire safety strategy. By understanding the types of extinguishers, knowing how to use them, and maintaining them properly, you can protect lives and property from the devastating effects of fire.

Should you have any questions or concerns, feel free to contact Fire Prevention Office at 784-4862/ 4741.

# Are You Saved?

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**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.]

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# The Crossword

By Jon Dunbar

**ACROSS**

1 Market research firm  
6 Legendary  
10 Sky warfare branch  
14 Type of online ad  
15 Opposite of papa  
16 Zilch  
17 Cognizant  
18 European mountain range  
19 Cheorwon triangle  
20 Police scientist  
22 Korean bar  
24 Food  
28 \_\_\_\_ vera  
31 Spock's philosophy  
35 Found at War Memorial of Korea  
37 \_\_\_\_ Resolve Campaign Medal  
39 Wind instruments  
40 "Ye \_\_\_\_"  
41 Restaurant's list

42 School website top-level domain  
44 Korean-Chinese idol group  
46 Desertion  
50 Shell shock  
52 Goes with killing or trip  
57 Battle of Incheon operation  
59 75th \_\_\_\_ Regiment  
60 Lends  
61 Pimple  
63 Eons  
64 Axl Rose's band  
66 Infantry transport  
68 Immediately  
71 Fraud  
74 Watering hole  
79 Meats and cheeses store  
80 Fits between delta and foxtro  
81 Unify  
82 Small branch  
83 Arrival times  
84 Examine

**DOWN**

1 Type of beer  
2 Captured soldier  
3 Found at a resort  
4 Airlift for \_\_\_\_ servicemen  
5 Up to \_\_\_\_  
6 Google service  
7 Buddy  
8 Troublemaker  
9 Money  
10 Soldier's clothes  
11 Coast Guard op  
12 Much \_\_\_\_ About Nothing  
13 Air conditioning alternative  
21 Anti-aircraft weapon  
23 Grand \_\_\_\_ Opry  
24 Frankenfood  
25 Massage  
26 Camp Kim occupant  
27 Honey maker  
29 Tanker cargo  
30 Opposite of started  
32 Girls' Generation song  
33 Motel  
34 24 agency  
36 Operate

38 Curse  
40 "I'm \_\_\_\_ here"  
43 Resolution measurement  
45 Son \_\_\_\_ gun  
46 Knee ligament  
47 UN public health agency  
48 Are you a man \_\_\_\_ mouse?  
49 Cannibal's delicacy  
51 Triple \_\_\_\_  
53 Once \_\_\_\_ while  
54 Breakfast food  
55 President Myung-bak  
56 MDs  
58 Microsoft portal  
59 Spokesperson  
62 Crete neighbor  
65 President Syngman  
67 Bloodless revolt  
68 US security company  
69 Stitch up  
70 Boxer Mohammed  
72 Between Sept and Nov  
73 Exclamation of discovery  
75 Actress Gasteyer  
76 Honorific for superior  
77 \_\_\_\_ a jungle out there  
78 Look at

**Answers to Previous Crossword**

ACROSS	26 EDGE	61 ETA	7 JEONGSEON	41 WHO
1 CHO	27 ITEM	62 WTO	8 SARGES	42 YAKUTSK
4 YAM	29 TENNIS	63 AURORAS	9 ARE	43 AIRRAID
7 ISA	33 OSS	67 CSI	10 SHOOTER	45 OVAL
10 SME	34 BENE	68 ION	11 MARLENE	46 HIS
13 VILLAGE	35 FREESTYLE	69 SKATING	12 END	47 ANU
15 EAR	37 BERET	70 OKD	14 LLC	48 LGB
16 HAN	38 UNDO	71 LNG	21 IDOL	50 COTTON
17 STELLAR	39 OVER	72 EEL	22 LIBERTY	54 LEASE
18 OLE	41 WYATT	73 DDT	23 WTF	58 NUKE
19 ORD	44 NONLETHAL		24 HER	59 ORAL
20 CURLING	49 HAIR		25 ONE	60 LOT
22 LOL	50 COV		28 MET	61 ECO
	51 CRYING		30 NEUTRAL	62 WIL
	52 OKRA		31 ISNT	64 RID
	53 OPAL		32 STD	65 AND
	55 SUB		36 YONGPYONG	66 SGT
	56 URL		37 BEER	
	57 TYLENOL		40 VLC	





**P**layful celebration: Maj. Isaiah Alley, 309th Fighter Squadron director of operations, is greeted with a celebratory spray of water from his daughter and niece, Feb. 19, 2025, at Luke Air Force Base, Ariz. As an instructor pilot with the 56th Fighter Wing, Alley played a key role in its mission to train the world's greatest fighter pilots and combat-ready Airmen. Surrounded by loved ones, he embraced the moment, marking the end of his active-duty service while looking ahead to his next journey in the Air Force Reserve. (U.S. Air Force photo by Airman 1st Class Belinda Guachun-Chichay) ▲



**T**hrowing fire: U.S. Air Force Academy's Dylan Rogers pitches during a game against the Army Black Knights at the Academy's Erdle Field in Colorado Springs, Colo. on Feb. 28, 2025. Air Force defeated Army 9-8 in the 11th inning. (U.S. Air Force photo by Ray Bahner)

**S**tadium Series flyover: An Ohio Air National Guard F-16 Fighting Falcon flies over Ohio Stadium in Columbus, Ohio, March 1, 2025. A KC-135 Stratotanker from the 121st Air Refueling Wing and two F-16s from the 180th Fighter Wing performed the flyover before the start of the 2025 NHL Stadium Series between the Columbus Blue Jackets and Detroit Red Wings, which was attended by 94,751 people. (U.S. Air National Guard photo by Tech. Sgt. Mikayla Gibbs) ▲

**A**irborne firefighter: A C-130 Hercules assigned to the 153rd Airlift Wing, is airborne during a Modular Airborne Fire Fighting System training at Top-of-the-World, Ariz., Feb. 14, 2025. MAFFS training prepares aircrews for wildfire suppression efforts ahead of the upcoming fire season. The Wyoming Air National Guard conducted the training alongside the California Air National Guard's 146th Airlift Wing, enhancing joint wildfire response capabilities. (U.S. Army National Guard photo by Staff Sgt. Cesar Rivas) ►





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 specific unit cook dinner for their fellow

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

**- 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

**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](http://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.1@osan.af.mil](mailto:Troisha.Busano.1@osan.af.mil), or call 315-784-5657, CELL 010-5793-2467

**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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto:megan.davis.2@us.af.mil), and Pack Leader Jeff Davis, [jeffrey.davis.58@us.af.mil](mailto: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](mailto:OsanHonorGuard@us.af.mil)

**Wingmen Helping Airmen Get Home**  
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](mailto: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 day 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/>.

**PACAF Spark Tank 2025 Ideas**  
PACAF Airmen are encouraged to submit innovative ideas for funding. All submissions receive feedback, with top ideas advancing to the PACAF Spark Tank Finals (April-May). All Airmen who wish to submit their idea and would like assistance send one or two lines describing your idea and what problem it solves to the Mustangwerx team and we will help facilitate your idea to victory. Submission requirements, timelines and supporting documents available on sharepoint. Funding & Criteria: Funded by COMPACAF and briefed to PACAF General Officers  
Up to \$1M available for selected projects  
Ideal projects: innovative and impactful (\$25K-\$500K recommended)  
Open to new concepts or proven solutions ready for scaling  
For questions, contact your local Spark Cell representative (Osan: MSgt Khalil Bashir, TSgt Efen Vaquera, TSgt Eric Scott).

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

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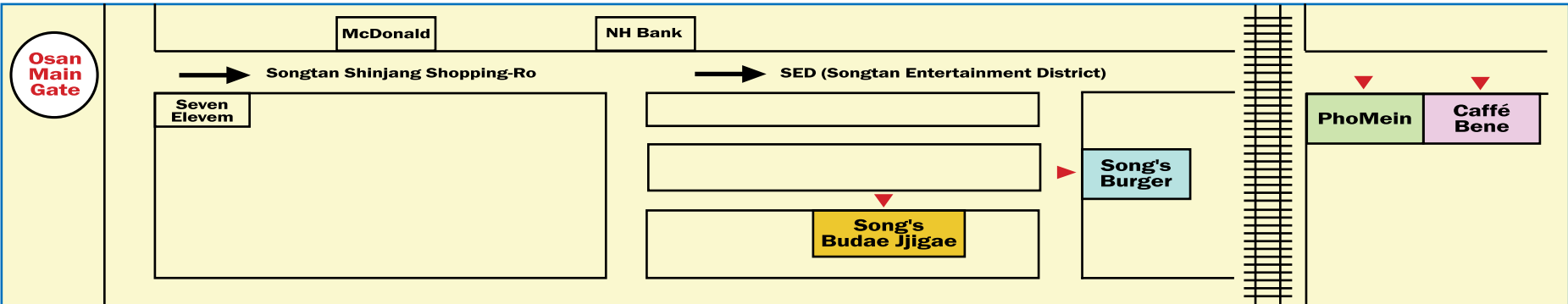
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# DAF Office of Special Trial Counsel releases year in review

Secretary of the Air Force Public Affairs

ARLINGTON, Va. (AFNS) -- The Department of the Air Force Office of Special Trial Counsel has released a year in review after a little more than a year of being fully operational.

OSTC was established by Congress to represent the United States in the investigation and prosecution of 14 categories of "covered" offenses under the UCMJ, to include most sex-related crimes, interpersonal domestic violence and other violent offenses. OSTC became fully operational on Dec. 28, 2023.

This statutory change gave OSTC the authority to decide whether to file, or "prefer," court-martial charges, or to return the case to command via an action called "deferral." This statutory change also gave OSTC exclusive authority to "refer" charges to a court-martial, the last step in bringing a case to trial. OSTC can refer covered and certain other offenses to trial by either a general or special court-martial.

OSTC preferred charges on its first exclusive-authority case on June 15, 2024, sent or "referred" charges to a court-martial on July 1, 2024, and tried the first "OSTC-referred" court-martial trial on Sept. 17, 2024. Sixty-four OSTC-referred courts-martial are docketed and pending trial as of February 2025.

"It is our goal to continue building a first-class organization that advances the purposes of military law as set out in the Preamble to the Manual for Courts-Martial, to promote justice, to deter misconduct, to facilitate appropriate accountability, to assist in maintaining good order and discipline in the armed forces, to promote efficiency and effectiveness in the military establishment and thereby to strengthen the national security of the United States," said U.S. Air Force Brig Gen Christopher Brown, the Lead Special Trial Counsel (LSTC).

Since its stand-up, OSTC has integrated with law enforcement, commanders, victims' counsel and installation legal offices to ensure accountability for perpetrators of sexual assault, domestic violence and other violent crimes.

Special Trial Counsel (STCs) closely coordinate with installation-level legal personnel and criminal investigators to inform investigations from the outset of covered offense allegations prior to making disposition decisions. STCs also consult with victims and commanders to hear and consider their views before making independent disposition decisions based on the nature of the alleged offenses and the strength of the available evidence.

"I look forward to continued coordination with our partners in command, law enforcement and the Air Force Judge Advocate General Corps to achieve objectives as we build on the framework established in year one of operations," Brown said.

The Department of the Air Force's Office of Special Trial Counsel's mission is "to provide expert, independent and ethical representation of the United States, under the direct civilian control of the Secretary of the Air Force, in the investigation and trial-level litigation of offenses over which the office exercises authority."

To learn more, visit <https://www.afjag.af.mil/OSTC/>



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The Warfighter's Spirit

Hope Drifting Away



By Ch. Capt. Bartlett

People of faith are familiar with the concept of hope, in fact, many will say they are the People of Hope; however, I argue that people of faith are not the sole keepers of hope. Hope is universal and stretches over a wide body of beliefs. Myself, like many others did not grow up in a home

of faith, I was an atheist, and my mother would dabble in a belief system akin to agnosticism; but nothing consistently. We had hope for a better tomorrow, a better outcome, a better opportunity to achieve something, like most. Now where I sit in life, I can say my hope remains the same. I have hope for a better tomorrow, a better outcome, and better opportunities to achieve my goals; but what has changed? As a chaplain, it can be said I am in the camp of faith, and I do not argue against that because I would place myself in that camp too. At the same time my hope has not changed from being an atheist to a person of faith. What or whom I look to in order to fulfill my hope has changed. In the past I placed my faith in systems of humanity to help me see my hope fulfilled. I placed faith in my teachers, politicians, and chance. I always place an emphasis in intellectual honesty, therefore, I must admit, as a young child and teenager, I was failed by everyone, including my family. As you are reading this article you might assume I am going to inject how I turned to faith and now all my hope has been realized because I have faith in God. Do not rush to a conclusion just yet, because I have been failed by my faith as well. I have been failed by church members and the church, and to be honest I have even felt failed by God. I grew up in abject poverty, in a single parent home; having been homeless on several occasions

growing up. During one of our bouts with homelessness, the State took my sister and I from our mother and placed us in foster care. Later as a teenager, I again became homeless, but instead of being placed in foster care, we were placed in a State facility till the Courts emancipated me as a 17-year old legal adult. At 18, I placed my faith in God, still having hope for a better tomorrow, a better outcome, and better opportunities to achieve something, though I still found myself constantly struggling with poverty. I lived on hope, crying and praying earnestly my hope would come to pass; however, I constantly found hope drifting away from me. Hope would be at the tip of my fingers and then would drift quietly away having been but a dream. It was once said that “hope deferred makes the heart sick,” and I whole heartily agree with that statement as I would find myself sick with depression, not having realized the hope I searched for. Hope is not guaranteed and exclusive to those of faith; many people of faith or no faith are familiar with suffering, and familiar with hope being deferred. I cannot tell you in 590 words how hope can be realized, as it is a process; however, I can tell you that your chaplain is a SME in leading you toward that direction. When you find hope drifting away, the best advice beyond this article is to find a friend, someone caring to listen, and if not a friend, perhaps a chaplain.

CHAPEL SCHEDULE

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>

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  
Tuesday – Thursday @ 1130

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  
- Sundays -  
0900 Christ The King Liturgical Service - Pacific Victors Chapel  
0930 & 1100 Agape (Contemporary Service) - 4CMC  
1000 Burning Bush Gospel Service - Warrior Chapel  
1100 Church of Christ - Pacific Victors Chapel  
1100 Common Ground (Traditional Service) - Freedom Chapel  
1300 Apostolic Pentecostal (Oneness) - Warrior Chapel  
1330 Spanish Service - Pacific Victors Chapel  
- Wednesdays -  
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; shown.a.droge.mil@mail.mil  
RELIGIOUS STUDIES AND MINISTRY AUXILIARIES  
MON/WED 1830 Catholic Men of the Chapel - Freedom  
TUES 1000-1200 Korean Ladies Bible Study (KLBS) - Freedom  
TUES 1800-2000 Club Beyond Christian Youth Group - 4CMC  
Summer Break 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  
1730-1930 Catholic Women of the Chapel (CWOC) - Freedom  
WED 1830-2000 Church of Christ Mid-Week Bible Study - Pacific  
THUR 0915-1130 Catholic Women of the Chapel (CWOC) - Freedom  
THUR 1800-2000 Protestant Men of the Chapel (PMOC) - 4CMC  
\* POC: CH Underhill 010-8520-7217  
1st SAT/Month 0830 Knights of Columbus - Freedom  
CATHOLIC - Freedom Chapel  
1600-1700 Adoration (Saturdays)  
1600-1700 Reconciliation/Confession (Saturdays)  
1640 Rosary/Benediction (Saturdays) ~ 1730 Vigil Mass (Saturdays)  
0900 Mass (Sundays) ~ 1730 Daily Mass (M-F)  
POC: usaghcatholiccoordinator@gmail.com  
JEWISH  
2nd and 4th Fridays - 4CMC  
1800-2100 Shabbat Evening Service  
POC: CH (CPT) Daniel Kamzan; daniel.j.kamzan.mil@mail.mil  
ISLAMIC - Pacific Victors Chapel  
Fridays: 1200-1330 Jum'ah 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 Fellowship  
POC: CPT Ryan S. Robinson; ryan.s.robinson14.mil@mail.mil  
BUDDHIST  
Tuesdays - Warrior Chapel / 1800-1900 Buddhist Service  
POC: CH (CPT) Somya Malasri; 010-7460-1281; somya.malasri.mil@mail.mil



Skyward ascent: A U.S. Air Force B-1B Lancer assigned to the 34th Expeditionary Bomb Squadron, Ellsworth Air Force Base, S.D., climbs skyward during a training mission in support of Bomber Task Force 25-1 at Andersen AFB, Guam, Feb. 24, 2025. Bomber Task Force missions demonstrate lethality and interoperability in support of a free and open Indo-Pacific. (U.S. Air Force photo by Tech. Sgt. Robert M. Trujillo) ▲



Leadership symposium: An audience of cadets, faculty, service members, visiting undergraduate students and community leaders listen to a senior leader panel including Gen. Stephen Whiting, U.S. Space Command commander, Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. David Allvin, Chief Master Sgt. of the Space Force John Bentivegna and Chief Master Sgt. of the Air Force David Flosi, during the National Character and Leadership Symposium at the U.S. Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs, Colo., Feb. 21, 2025. NCLS is the Academy's annual leadership symposium bringing together distinguished scholars, military leaders, corporate executives and world-class athletes. (U.S. Air Force photo by Trevor Cokley) ◀



Flare check: A U.S. Air Force F-15E Strike Eagle performs a flare check over the U.S. Central Command area of responsibility, March 9, 2025. The F-15E is deployed within the CENTCOM AOR to help defend U.S. interests, promote regional security and deter aggression in the region. (U.S. Air Force photo by Senior Airman Zachary Willis) ▲

Overcoming any obstacle: A special warfare Airman from the 48th Rescue Squadron scales a vertical surface with a simulated patient during a training exercise at Davis-Monthan Air Force Base, Ariz., Feb. 18, 2025. This training, which showcased the squadron's ability to safely and effectively rescue personnel from hard-to-reach locations, is vital for Air Force special warfare operatives, ensuring they remain proficient in essential rescue techniques. (U.S. Air Force photo by Senior Airman Jasmyne Briggers-Matos) ◀



# 8th CES Red Devils execute readiness capabilities during Freedom Shield 25



Airmen assigned to the 8th Civil Engineer Squadron fire department respond to an inject during Exercise Freedom Shield 25 at Kunsan Air Base, Republic of Korea, March 10, 2025. The inject tested the 8th CES's contingency capabilities, including putting out a structural fire and treating simulated injured patients. Personnel across Seventh Air Force, including the 8th Fighter Wing, participated in large-scale, realistic training to strengthen interoperability, reinforce the ROK-U.S. combined defense posture and increase combat readiness.

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

KUNSAN AIR BASE, Republic of Korea -- Airmen assigned to the 8th Civil Engineer Squadron fire department respond to an inject during Exercise Freedom Shield 25 at Kunsan Air Base, Republic of Korea, March 10, 2025. The inject tested the 8th CES's contingency capabilities, including putting out a structural fire and treating simulated injured patients. Personnel across Seventh Air Force, including the 8th Fighter Wing, participated in large-scale, realistic training to strengthen interoperability, reinforce the ROK-U.S. combined defense posture and increase combat readiness.

Airmen assigned to the 8th Civil Engineer Squadron fire department treat a simulated patient during Freedom Shield 25 at Kunsan Air Base, Republic of Korea, March 10, 2025. The inject tested the 8th CES's contingency capabilities, including putting out a structural fire and treating simulated injured patients. FS25 challenges Seventh Air Force personnel, including the 8th Fighter Wing, in a rigorous training environment to enhance combat readiness and response capabilities. ►



Airmen assigned to the 8th Civil Engineer Squadron fire department load a hose onto a fire truck during Freedom Shield 25 at Kunsan Air Base, Republic of Korea, March 10, 2025. During the training, firefighters honed their skills in safely entering a building, rescuing victims, and locating and extinguishing the flames. Personnel across Seventh Air Force, including the 8th Fighter Wing, participated in large-scale, realistic training to strengthen interoperability, reinforce the ROK-U.S. combined defense posture and increase combat readiness. ▲



Airman 1st Class Anthony Cooper, 8th Civil Engineer Squadron firefighter, loads a hose onto a fire truck during Freedom Shield 25 at Kunsan Air Base, Republic of Korea, March 10, 2025. During the training, firefighters honed their skills in safely entering a building, rescuing victims, and locating and extinguishing the flames. FS25 is a defense-oriented exercise focused on fortifying response capabilities to safeguard security of the peninsula. ▲



Airman 1st Class Anthony Cooper, 8th Civil Engineer Squadron firefighter, retrieves dressing to treat a simulated patient during Freedom Shield 25 at Kunsan Air Base, Republic of Korea, March 10, 2025. During the inject, the 8th CES was tested on their contingency capabilities, demonstrating proficiency on putting out a structural fire and treating simulated injured patients. FS25 challenges personnel under Seventh Air Force, including the 8th Fighter Wing, in a rigorous training environment to enhance combat readiness and response capabilities. ▲



Airman 1st Class Jessdon Blanco, 8th Civil Engineer Squadron firefighter, dons his oxygen mask for an inject during Freedom Shield 25 at Kunsan Air Base, Republic of Korea, March 10, 2025. Firefighters honed their skills in safely entering a building, rescuing victims, and locating and extinguishing the flames. FS25 is a defense-oriented exercise focused on fortifying response capabilities to safeguard security of the peninsula. ▲

# OSAN AIR POWER DAYS 2025

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# "Respect the Past, Forge the Future"



# A Guide to Spring Blossom Destinations



Plum blossoms, canola flowers, forsythias, cherry blossoms, daffodils, azaleas, and so on – there’s nothing better to announce the arrival of spring than flowers. Spring in Korea begins with vibrant magenta and yellow flowers, and end with lovely pink blossoms. People travel far and wide, to the southernmost tip of the peninsula and even across the sea, to relish the delicate spring blossoms that only come once a year. Here is a compilation of the top seven spring blossom attractions!



## Red plum blossoms of Nakseonjae Hall, Changdeokgung Pavilion

Changdeokgung Palace is one of the most favored spring outing destinations due to its well-preserved authentic beauty and gorgeous flowers. Among the many attractive views within Changdeokgung Palace, the double flowering red plum blossom trees are the most outstanding of them all. Blooming from trees that were sent as a gift from China over 400 years ago, the blossoms boast flamboyant pink petals layered on top of one another. Visitors are advised to visit in mid to late March to see the flowers at their peak.

• Address: 99, Yulgok-ro, Jongno-gu, Seoul

## Azaleas of Royal Azalea Hill, Gunpo

Royal azaleas bid farewell to spring as they are the last blossoms to bloom right before summer’s arrival. Blooming usually between April and June, their shades of deep pink are more intense than any other spring blossoms. The best spot to enjoy the sight of azaleas is at the Royal Azalea Hill located near Surisan Station (Seoul Subway Line 4) in Gunpo, Gyeonggi-do. The Royal Azalea Hill offers the breathtaking beauty of one million azalea shrubs forming a colony and convenient amenities like a walking trail with benches along the way. Recommended dates to visit the Royal Azalea Hill for this year are April 19-27 during the festival period.

• Address: 470, Gosan-ro, Gunpo-si, Gyeonggi-do



## Canola flowers and cherry blossoms of Noksan-ro Canola Flower Road, Jeju Island

The number one spring blossom that represents Jeju is the canola flower. Picked as one of the “100 Beautiful Roads of Korea,” Noksan-ro Canola Flower Road stretches for 10 kilometers, flanked by a carpet of charming canola flowers on both sides every April. During the Jeju Canola Flower Festival this year, taking place March 29-30, visitors can experience pony riding along the road.

• Address: 381-17, Noksan-ro, Pyoseon-myeon, Seogwipo-si, Jeju-do



## Cherry Blossoms of Gyeongpoho Lake, Gangneung

Gyeongpoho Lake is a seaside lagoon with a circumference of 4 kilometers, lined by a row of king cherry trees and weeping cherry trees. Every spring, the flower buds on the trees burst into delicate pink blossoms. The scenery of pink blossoms along the beach and the lake is quite a view, and thus included in the Eight Scenic Views of Gangwon State. Towards the end of the peak bloom, petals shower down and create a magical scene. An annual cherry blossom festival takes place in the area, and this year’s festival is planned to take place in early April.

• Address: Gyeongpoho Lake area in Jeo-dong, Gangneung-si, Gangwon-do

## Forsythia at Eungbongsan Mountain, Seoul

The sight of forsythias spread across Eungbongsan Mountain is a sign that spring has arrived. Once this charming rocky mountain becomes blanketed with forsythias, its picturesque scenery looks as if it’s a painting. The walking trail leading to the mountain can be found by following the alleyway in front of the public parking lot by Eungbong Station (Gyeongui-Jungang Line), Exit 1. Forsythia’s peak bloom is forecast for mid to late March. Eungbongsan Forsythia Festival takes place annually to celebrate the occasion; this year’s festival is planned to take place March 27-29.

• Address: 1540 Geumho-dong 4-ga, Seongdong-gu, Seoul







A Falcon 9 rocket launches the Crew Dragon's 10th operational human spaceflight mission to the International Space Station from Launch Complex 39A at Kennedy Space Center, Florida, March 14, 2025. The Crew-10 members, including U.S. Army Col. Anne McClain and U.S. Air Force Maj. Nichole Ayers, will conduct new research to prepare human exploration beyond low-Earth orbit. This mission also enables the return of NASA astronauts Suni Williams and Butch Wilmore, along with Roscosmos cosmonaut Aleksandr Gorbunov and U.S. Space Force Col. Nick Hague - the first Space Force Guardian to launch into space. (U.S. Space Force photo by Airman 1st Class Collin Wesson)

# Air Force major pilots NASA's SpaceX Crew-10 mission

By Maria Galvez

JOINT BASE ELMENDORF-RICHARDSON, Alaska (AFNS) -- U.S. Air Force Maj. Nichole Ayers, NASA astronaut, successfully completed her next mission: space.

NASA's SpaceX Crew-10 mission to the International Space Station launched on March 14 aboard the SpaceX Dragon spacecraft, carried by a Falcon 9 rocket, from the agency's Kennedy Space Center, Florida.

The spacecraft will autonomously dock to the space station March 15, after approximately 28.5 hours of travel at 17,000 mph in orbit around Earth.

Ayers has flown missions around the globe, including more than 200 combat hours in Operation Inherent Resolve over Iraq and Syria and more than 1,400 flight hours in the T-38 Talon and F-22 Raptor.

< Continued on page 31 >

U.S. Air Force Maj. Nichole Ayers (second from left) poses with her SpaceX Crew-10 mission team before their scheduled launch on March 14, 2025. Ayers was previously stationed at Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson where she was assistant director of operations and an F-22 pilot for the 90th Fighter Squadron in 2021. (NASA/Bill Stafford/Helen Arase Vargas) ▶



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< Continued from page 28 >

Previously stationed at Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson, Ayers served as the 3rd Wing, 90th Fighter Squadron assistant director of operations before receiving the call to join NASA in 2021.

Ayers reflected on how her military training and experiences have shaped her readiness for this next step.

"Most of my training has been in the operational realm; learning to make split-second decisions under intense pressure is a skill we learn throughout our time as Air Force pilots. We train for the worst and hope for the best — training to go to the International Space Station is no different," Ayers said. "We learn about the space station systems and how to react when something doesn't go as planned. We are well-trained and prepared for any contingency along the way to or from the space station, as well as during our time living there."

Her Air Force experience taught her the importance of teamwork in high-pressure environments, a lesson she believes will be invaluable during her time aboard the space station.

"Taking care of your teammates in adverse or austere environments is something every Airman learns throughout their career. My time in the Air Force prepared me well for this mission," she said.

Representing the Air Force at NASA is an honor she cherishes deeply. Growing up, Ayers was inspired by the space shuttle program and the idea of becoming an astronaut.

"As a child, I always loved flying and space and grew up during the shuttle era. When I learned you could fly the space shuttle, I knew I wanted to be a pilot in the Air Force and pursue my dreams of becoming a NASA astronaut through that path," she recalled. "I absolutely loved every minute of my time at the Air Force Academy and throughout my entire flying career in the T-38A and F-22. Representing those communities and the Air Force as a whole as we embark on our mission to the International Space Station is truly special and one of my greatest honors."

For Ayers, the most meaningful aspect of her career has been the people she's met along the way. She credits the bonds formed during her time in the Air Force with helping her succeed in the toughest moments.

"It is the people who matter the most. Take care of your people, and they will take care of the mission. That lesson is no different in space flight," she said. "Crew-10 is made up of some of the most intelligent, efficient and caring people I've ever worked with. We make an amazing team because we take care of each other and back each other up on everything, both operationally and personally."

As she embarks on this new chapter, Ayers is focused on the future while honoring the lessons and relationships that have shaped her career.

"If you are a good team player and you're willing to work hard, you'll get anywhere you want in this life," Ayers advised. "Find something you are passionate about, dig in and work hard at it. Take care of others and be a good human along the way, and you'll be unstoppable."

According to NASA, commercial crew missions allow the agency to optimize the use of the space station where humans have lived and worked for over 24 years. This work involves testing technologies, conducting research and developing skills needed for operating future commercial destinations in low Earth orbit and for exploring farther from Earth. Research on the space station benefits people on Earth and supports future long-duration missions to the moon and beyond through NASA's Artemis program.



Astronaut and U.S. Air Force Maj. Nichole Ayers speaks to family and friends as her fellow crewmates prepare to depart the Neil A. Armstrong Operations and Checkout Building for Launch Complex 39A on NASA's Kennedy Space Center, Fla., to board the SpaceX Dragon spacecraft for the Crew-10 mission launch, March 14, 2025. Ayers piloted the crew's spacecraft when it launched aboard a Falcon 9 rocket from the space center on the same day at 7:03 p.m. EDT. Ayers has flown missions across the globe, including more than 200 combat hours in Operation Inherent Resolve over Iraq and Syria and more than 1,400 flight hours in the T-38 Talon and F-22 Raptor. Previously stationed at Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson, Alaska, Ayers served as the 3rd Wing, 90th Fighter Squadron assistant director of operations before receiving the call to join NASA in 2021. (U.S. Air Force photo courtesy of NASA by Aubrey Gemignani) ▲



NASA's SpaceX Crew-10 launches aboard a SpaceX Falcon 9 rocket carrying the Dragon spacecraft piloted by astronaut and U.S. Air Force Maj. Nichole "Vapor" Ayers, from Kennedy Space Center, Fla., March 14, 2025, at 7:03 p.m. EDT. Ayers has flown missions across the globe, including more than 200 combat hours in Operation Inherent Resolve over Iraq and Syria and more than 1,400 flight hours in the T-38 Talon and F-22 Raptor. Previously stationed at Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson, Alaska, Ayers served as the 3rd Wing, 90th Fighter Squadron assistant director of operations before receiving the call to join NASA in 2021. (U.S. Air Force photo courtesy of NASA by Aubrey Gemignani) ▲



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