

Brothers for life: ROTC cadets to Juvat pilots

By Capt. Jaclyn Sumayao 8th Fighter Wing Public Affairs

KUNSAN AIR BASE, Republic of Korea -- If you're walking around the Wolf Pack, you might just bump into Maj. Chris "Tuco" Harrison and Maj. Douglas "Bane" Jenkins hanging out together after work.

At first glance, you can tell they are close friends, but their friendship goes way back, before their time at Kunsan.

It was the year 2006, when freshmen Chris

Harrison and Douglas Jenkins began their ROTC experience at the prestigious Tuskegee University. They joined its Air Force ROTC Detachment 015, which also produced the 8th Fighter Wing's first "Wolf 2" and first African-American four-star general, Gen. Daniel "Chappie" James. Little did they know they would be going on a long journey in the Air Force together, for years to come.

As brand new cadets, Harrison and Jenkins met through daily, mandatory physical training, or PT, leading them to become quick friends. The two constantly challenged themselves and each other, improving the skills they would need as officers in the U.S. Air Force.

"Overall, it was a really wholesome experience," Jenkins said. "I was much newer to the concept of pursuing a military career, so I leaned on Tuco pretty hard in the beginning, as I navigated an unfamiliar arena...it's been a brotherhood since the first day of PT."

During their time in ROTC, Harrison dreamed of earning his wings to become a pilot, but Jenkins had something else in mind.

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Red Devils invest in present, future Wolf Pack



Airmen pitch innovative ideas, earn funding from Wolf Tank



Army leaders urge Soldiers to get COVID-19 vaccine

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Kolton Rottinghaus, 51st Fighter Wing Safety Bird/Wildlife Aircraft Strike Hazard manager, fires a shotgun on the flightline at Osan Air Base, Jan. 14, 2021. The BASH program is in place to reduce catastrophic bird strikes. A bird strike can damage an engine, dent a windshield, or even break other parts of an aircraft. (U.S. Air Force photo by Senior Airman Branden Rae)

BASH keeps Osan's flightline safe



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By Senior Airman Mya M. Crosby **8th Fighter Wing Public Affairs**

KUNSAN AIR BASE, Republic of Korea -- The 8th Civil Engineer Squadron, also known as the 'Red Devils,' recently completed a monthslong contracted study to improve mission accomplishment and quality-of-life for the 8th Fighter Wing 'Wolf Pack.'

The study focused on infrastructure and utilities like dormitories, heating, ventilation, and air conditioning systems, water supply and treatment, military working dog kennels, and even game-planned for future construction projects like the 80th Fighter Squadron and 80th Aircraft Maintenance Unit complex.

"When it comes to the mission, investing in our infrastructure ensures that we are able to fly sorties and that we have a primary and back-up power source for critical missions," said Maj. Harrizon Sanchez, 8th CES engineering flight commander. "We must have the capability to accept the surge of follow-on forces by making sure the sewer system, water sources, HVAC systems, and the dormitories can handle the influx of service members. To make all of this happen at Kunsan, we need to invest in the Wolf Pack's infrastructure and utilities."

Although most service members are only at Kunsan for a one-year tour, the Red Devils take pride in cultivating a '10-year vision' to prolong operations at Kunsan.

An Airman cycles past a dormitory at Kunsan Air Base, Republic of Korea, Feb. 22, 2021. The dormitories, maintained and monitored by the 8th Civil Engineer Squadron, were built between 1950 and 2006, and have the capacity to house more than 3,000 service members. The 8th CES, also known as the Red Devils, recently completed a study to improve the Wolf Pack's quality-of-life and mission accomplishment. The study focused on infrastructure and utilities like dormitories, heating, ventilation, and air conditioning systems, water supply and treatment, military working dog kennels, and even game-planned for future construction projects like the 80th Fighter Squadron and 80th Aircraft Maintenance Unit complex. (U.S. Air Force photo by Senior Airman Mya M. Crosby)



A team of contractors and 8th Civil Engineer Squadron engineers conduct a strengths, weaknesses, opportunity and threats, or SWOT, analysis for a proposed facility site at Kunsan Air Base. Republic of Korea, Feb. 17, 2020. The 8th CES, also known as the Red Devils, recently completed a study to improve the Wolf Pack's quality-of-life and mission accomplishment. (Courtesy photo)

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Staff Sgt. Matthew Rothe, 8th Civil Engineer Squadron noncommissioned officer in charge of water plant operations, and Staff Sgt. Jacob Beebe, 8th CES water plant operator, test the pH and chlorine levels at a ground storage tank at Kunsan Air Base, Republic of Korea, Feb. 21, 2021. The team insures operability and integrity of the tanks that supply an average of 600,000 gallons of water daily by performing hourly checks during 24-hour operations. The 8th CES, also known as the Red Devils, recently completed a study to improve the Wolf Pack's quality-of-life and mission accomplishment. (U.S. Air Force photo by Senior Airman Mya M. Crosby)

"Continuity between rotating personnel is a real challenge," Sanchez said. "Having the goal to fix all the infrastructure problems is not realistic within a single year. What the 8th CES has asked the contractor to do is help identify short-term projects (1-2 years), mid-term projects (2-5 years), and long-term projects (5+ years) to improve our aging infrastructure."

- the dorms.

summer."

priority.

for everyone.

Keeping in mind the more than 3,000 personnel who make up the Wolf Pack, the study also looked at the installation's electrical distribution system, exterior lighting for poorly-lit areas throughout the base, stormwater management, various revetments protecting important assets, lift stations, manholes, and the base's geographic information system.

"Having a game plan for the long-term helps us prioritize our infrastructure program and provides a road-to-improvement plan for future rotations," said 1st Lt. Gabriel Hinding, 8th CES officer-in-charge of program development. "The future of getting these projects funded is uncertain and challenging, but the keys to success are solid planning, requirements definition, and properly programming the projects."



While the study included both short- and longterm projects, the engineers have already been working on some of the most important facilities on the installation that affect every service member

"We're updating preventative maintenance on our HVAC contracts to make them more frequent and are funding a \$1.5 million contract to repair inoperable HVAC components in nine of our largest and most problematic dorms," Sanchez said. "It is important to get the word out to the Wolf Pack that 8th CES has already started getting after the short-term projects identified during the study, and are actively working to improve dormitory living conditions before the heat and humidity return this

For commanders at every level across the Korean peninsula, 'taking care of the team' is always a top

"My main focus is to emphasize how the Red Devils are trying to not only take care of the Airmen at the Wolf Pack now, but future service members as well," Sanchez said. "Investing in the future of the Wolf Pack's infrastructure and utilities is important to keep the base functioning and ready to perform its mission, and also to improve the quality of life

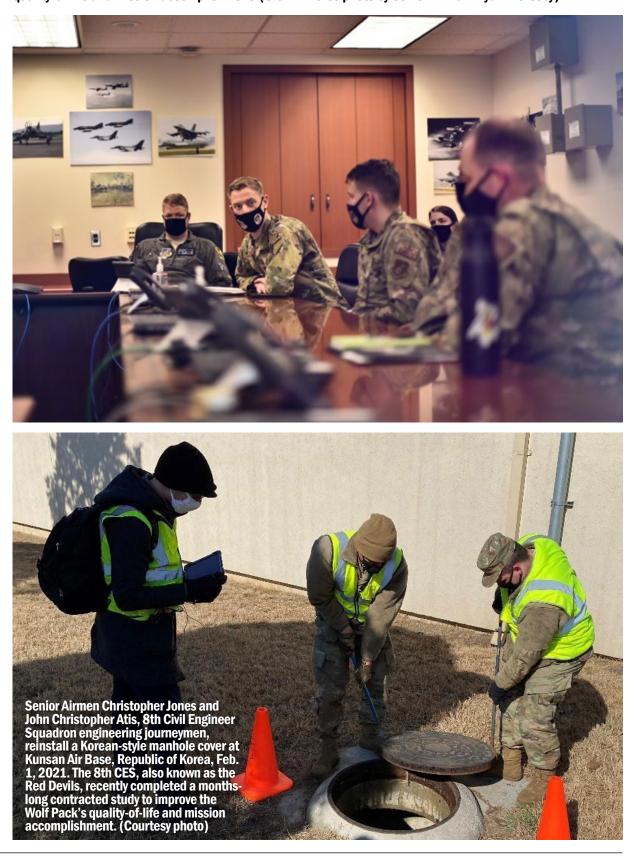
Being able to have lighting when you flip the light switch, or hot water when you turn your shower on, or have air-conditioning in the summer requires infrastructure investment," Sanchez said.

For the Red Devils, investing in this study is investing in the future of the base and those who will call it home. With a clear, prioritized plan, the engineers can tackle the infrastructure challenges with intention, improving both the mission and the quality-of-life for the legendary Wolf Pack.

Editor's Note: For dorm maintenance requests and resources, don't forget to download the Air Force Connect app and select '8th Fighter Wing.'



Maj. Timothy Doster, 8th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron commander, speaks during a briefing on the reconstruction of multiple facilities at Kunsan Air Base, Republic of Korea, Feb. 19, 2021. The 8th Civil Engineer Squadron, also known as the Red Devils, recently completed a study to improve the Wolf Pack's quality-of-life and mission accomplishment. (U.S. Air Force photo by Senior Airman Mya M. Crosby) ▼



COMMENTARY

March 5, 2021

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Back Prides

By Staff Sgt. Jao'Torey K. Johnson **35th Fighter Wing Public Affairs**

MISAWA AIR BASE, Japan -- Thinking back to my childhood, there was never a time I can recall being proud of my dark skin. It felt more like an undeserved rap sheet than an indication of racial distinction. Is that a strange thing to say? It's my truth. I wasn't taught, nor did I grow up seeing, anything that inspired pride in being Black.

I think people overlook the importance of having leaders, role models, and heroes that resemble you. I often wonder about the pride a young white child may have felt in grade school as historical figures such as Christopher Columbus were revered as great explorers. I wonder how empowering it was for a child of Spanish descent to sit through lessons on the life and adventures of Francisco Pizarro. I imagine those individuals sat with their heads held as high as I held mine when eventually school teachings took us to Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and his activism. Maybe even as high as I held my head with my chest out as I marched around Misawa's Black History Month Museum in the Misawa Air Base O'Club Ballroom, Feb. 5, 2021.

My 5th grade teacher was the first person that taught me about the history of Africans in America. Imagine being one of two Black children in a class of nearly 30 as an elderly white woman stands at the front of the room and discusses how powerful white men humiliated, enslaved, and tortured the helpless victims from which you are descended. A near unfathomable level of humiliation rises as eyes creep toward you and dart away avoiding the return of your gaze.

The memory of that situation filled me with emotions as I explored the many displays of Misawa's first Black History Month Museum.

The different squadrons at Misawa were encouraged to research and present information on an African American who contributed to their respective career fields. Some of the display creators stood with their projects and imparted knowledge to attendees that journeyed through the museum.

Children from the base schools also contributed with poster boards and projects covered in art and facts about historical Black figures ranging from Tupac Shakur to Thurgood Marshall.

I felt so much of the shame from my childhood dissipate as I read each display detailing the glory of Jesse Owens, the genius of Garrett Morgan, and the scientific contributions of Henrietta Lacks amongst other influential figures who shaped history and today's society.



Marlon Manley (left), Misawa community member, presents his display to two judges, U.S. Air Force Col. Jesse Friedel, 35th Fighter Wing commander, (center) and Chief Master Sgt. Steven Creek, 35th Medical Group command chief (right), for the Black History Month Museum Display Contest at Misawa Air Base, Japan, Feb. 5, 2021. The contest encouraged units to create a display highlighting a Black figure that had an influence on their career field. (U.S. Air Force photo by Staff Sgt. Jao'Torey Johnson)



Years following that embarrassing day in my 5th grade class have elevated my perspective on the education of history. While I eventually received the heroes that resembled me, I came to notice that they came in a particular form. Dr. King was touted for his peaceful ideology. Rosa Parks was praised for her non-violent boycotts. Though, it was irreverent to idolize a figure like Malcolm X who sought the same social equality. I began to doubt the candor of mainstream Black history education, and eventually, I grew to realize self-education on African American contributions throughout history was instrumental in reshaping my own self-image.

I'm not sure I can overstate the importance and impact of events like Misawa's Black History Month Museum. At this time, I'm the vice president of the African American Heritage Association, so I participated in all phases of the event from planning to final teardown. While I hoped for a successful event, I didn't believe it would be as wonderful as it turned out. During a time of pandemic and social distancing,

the participation and engagement from the community far exceeded my expectations.

Walking around the venue I had the opportunity to glimpse at some of the numerous impacts African Americans have had on various occupations. Even more special was witnessing the chosen subjects and facts on the children's projects. It was reassuring to see that today's youth seem less limited in their knowledge of the influences from the Black community than I was just over a decade ago. Admittedly, I learned more than I anticipated from the children's work.

I didn't foresee the changes that occurred within myself at Misawa's first Black History Month Museum, but I'm glad it happened. In that room, I watched people from different races and cultures show interest, and at times excitement, in learning about historical figures that resembled me. In that room, I listened to the giddy chatter of children as they marveled at some of the displays honoring Black history. In that room, I was instilled with a much greater pride to be Black.

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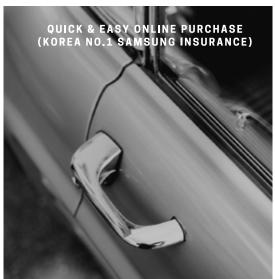


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NEWS

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Airmen pitch innovative ideas, earn funding from Wolf Tank

By Senior Airman Suzie Plotnikov **8th Fighter Wing Public Affairs**

KUNSAN AIR BASE, Republic of Korea --Airmen pitched their innovative ideas to 8th Fighter Wing leadership during a Wolf Tank at Kunsan Air Base, Republic of Korea, Feb. 17, 2021. Wolf Tank is based on the TV show "Shark Tank," and is part of the wing's Operation BOLO program, which stands for "Be on the Lookout for Opportunity."

Operation BOLO gives Airmen the opportunity to accelerate change and enhance the wing's ability to accomplish the mission, year-round, with Wolf Tanks held periodically to put ideas into action. During the most recent Wolf Tank, Airmen briefed their ideas, including thermal recon drones, 3D printers, exoskeleton bionic vests, a fire pump panel simulator and a mesh networking tactical radio system.

"This is a hub of innovation," said Tech. Sgt. Dallas Ford, 8th Force Support Squadron manpower analyst and Operation BOLO member. "People came together and came up with ideas to make our base a better place to work and live."

While capacity was limited at previous Wolf Tanks, this iteration of the innovation panel was open to squadron commanders in order to foster more discussion and input on how Airmen's ideas



Audience members listen as Senior Master Sgt. AJ Kehl, 8th Civil Engineer Squadron Fire Department fire chief, pitches a fire pump panel simulator during a Wolf Tank in the 8th Fighter Wing conference room at Kunsan Air Base, Republic of Korea, Feb. 17, 2021. Wing leadership selected three of the five ideas to receive full or partial funding, including the fire pump panel simulator, 3D printers and exoskeleton bionic vests. (U.S. Air Force photo by Senior Airman Suzie Plotnikov)

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Wing leadership and audience members discuss an innovative idea presented during a Wolf Tank in the 8th Fighter Wing conference room at Kunsan Air Base, Republic of Korea, Feb. 17, 2021. Wolf Tank is based on the TV show "Shark Tank," and is part of the wing's Operation BOLO program, which stands for "Be on the Lookout for Opportunity." Operation BOLO gives Airmen the opportunity to accelerate change and enhance the wing's ability to accomplish the mission, year-round, with Wolf Tanks held periodically to put ideas into action. (U.S. Air Force photo by Senior Airman Suzie Plotnikov)

Fighter Wing commander.

the exoskeleton bionic vest.

"This idea [fire pump panel simulator] came from the love of the job," said Tech. Sgt. Cory Barrett, 8th Civil Engineer Squadron Fire Department assistant chief of operations. "With technology and everything advancing in the fire department world, we want to leverage technology, and that's what we're doing."

"Now we know that our members, from the comfort of the training room, will be able to accomplish their upgrade training without worrying what the weather is like outside and without worrying about damaging the pump or the engine," said Senior Master Sgt. AJ Kehl, 8th CES Fire Department fire chief.

"It goes without saying that innovation is all about being proactive, leaning forward – and I think we use that word in a funny way," Kehl said. "It's really about Airmen having the mindset to constantly leave things better than they found it and constantly improving on what's given to them." Innovation is a big priority, not only for the Wolf Pack, but also across the Air Force. In August, Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. Charles Q. Brown, Jr., released his strategic approach entitled Accelerate Change or Lose, in which he described how the force must innovate in order to remain the most dominant and respected Air Force in the world. "It's important to innovate because if we just think to ourselves, then we're not going to see the changes we want in our military," said Capt. Suzanna Palmer, 8th Logistics Readiness Squadron vehicle management flight commander and Operation BOLO member. "I hope it [Wolf Tank] inspires other units to consider ideas from their Airmen and not just the select few units that were

presenting."

In his closing comments, Hammond expressed he was impressed with what was presented. "This process has evolved from what initially started in the Air Force and, specifically, in the Wolf Pack," Hammond said. "Your presentations, to include the videos, have been a lot more thorough, there was a lot more information, thought and research. I'm really happy with what came out of this."



could come into fruition. Once each Airman presented his or her idea and answered questions from the panel, wing leadership deliberated behind closed doors on which innovations to fund. "I think we received a lot more information with having more expertise in the room asking questions," said Col. Christopher Hammond, 8th

Wing leadership decided to fully- or partiallyfund three of the five ideas presented, including the fire pump panel simulator, the 3D printers and

Wing leadership listen to a presentation during a Wolf Tank in the 8th Fighter Wing conference room at Kunsan Air Base, Republic of Korea, Feb. 17, 2021. Wolf Tank is based on the TV show "Shark Tank," and is part of the wing's Operation BOLO program, which stands for "Be on the Lookout for Opportunity." (U.S. Air Force photo by Senior Airman Suzie Plotnikov)►





Capt. Suzanna Palmer, 8th Logistics Readiness Squadron vehicle management flight commander, briefs about exoskeleton bionic vests during a Wolf Tank in the 8th Fighter Wing conference room at Kunsan Air Base, Republic of Korea, Feb. 17, 2021. Wing leadership selected three of the five ideas to receive full or partial funding, including the fire pump panel simulator, 3D printers and exoskeleton bionic vests. (U.S. Air Force photo by Senior Airman Suzie Plotnikov) ▲



NEWS

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Multi-Capable Airmen course innovates airpower capabilities

By Airman 1st Class Samuel Colvin **JBER Public Affairs**

KADENA AIR BASE, Japan -- Thirty-two Kadena Airmen participated in the 18th Wing's first Multi-Capable Airmen training course supporting the Agile Combat Employment concept at Kadena Air Base, Feb. 22-26, 2021.

This innovative course enables Airmen to perform duties outside their Air Force specialty code, allowing for smaller, more efficient teams, which has the capacity to change how the Air Force generates airpower.

"MCA is taking multiple AFSCs, and taking them completely out of their norm to learn other AFSCs - to be able to pack up and leave from Kadena and support the mission at a different location with fewer people," said Master Sgt. Tyler Pillmore, 18th Wing ACE section chief.

The MCA course combines classroom instruction and applied learning, with a distinct focus on practical application to provide training in operations such as expedient airfield repair, tent assembly, or communications flyaway kit set-up.

"It's been really awesome, especially the hands-on parts," said Senior Airman Hayden



U.S. Air Force Tech Sgt, Chaz Wise, a quality assurance evaluator from the 18th Logistic Readiness Squadron. instructs Senior Airman Jamaila Centino, a member from the 18th Wing Security Forces Squadron, on refueling procedures during a Multi-Capable Airmen course exercise on Kadena Air Base, Japan, Feb. 26, 2021. The MCA course is conducted over five days, and includes three tiers of training, each more in-depth than the last. ▲

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McAbee, an F-15 avionics technician from the 44th Aircraft Maintenance Unit. "It's crazy how many moving parts there are within the machine of a TDY or a deployment. It's nice knowing where my job fits into the big Air Force, and knowing that we can all learn those moving parts to enter into the new generation of warfighting."

the last.

of Multi-Capable Airmen.

"Prior to this - or even historically some Airmen made it through their whole career without really touching an aircraft or understanding where they fit. This will create a greater sense of ownership, enterprise-wide," said Senior Master Sgt. Frank Uecker, 18th Wing ACE superintendent. "Everybody will understand from a Multi-Capable Airman standpoint, 'hey, I really get it here, this is my role, and now that I understand what everybody does, I understand why they're important too." Looking forward, ACE is not just a buzzword to describe innovation, but has the potential to be a part of the education of every Airman inprocessing to Kadena, Uecker explained. "The end goal is making sure that we break away from the typical mindset of 'I'm a maintainer, and that's what I do' or 'I'm a CE Dirtboy and that's what I do – and only that,' and to really look at what it takes to generate airpower in an agile manner," Uecker said. "I think big picture, that's an Air Force-wide effort."

NEWS

Over the course of five days, Airmen complete three tiers of training, each more in-depth than

Day one consists of tier-one training, which includes a basic introduction and familiarization of what ACE is. The last four days are tier-two and tier-three training which explores the practical and operational applications expected

U.S. service members from the 18th Wing practice assembling a multi-use tent during a Multi-Capable Airmen course exercise, at Kadena Air Base, Japan, Feb. 24, 2021. This training is a part of the "beddown procedures" portion of the course, preparing Airmen to set up facilities in any location necessary.



U.S. Air Force Master Sgt. Tyler Pillmore, the Agile Combat Employment section chief from the 18th Wing, briefs the Multi-Capable Airmen course participants on the next scheduled training at Kadena Air Base, Japan, Feb. 25, 2021. The MCA course broadens Airmen's skills beyond their current Air Force specialty code, supporting the Agile Combat Employment concept.

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Staff Sgt. Rebekah Crosswhite, 8th Operational **Medical Readiness Squadron medical** technician, prepares the injection site for Master Sgt. Linwood Cypress, 8th Healthcare **Operations Squadron superintendent, at Kunsan** Air Base, Republic of Korea, Feb. 1, 2021. Cypress, a qualified first responder and medical professional, opted to receive the COVID-19 vaccine after contracting the virus. As of Feb. 23, 2021, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention reported 64.2 million people in the U.S. received one or more doses of the COVID-19 vaccine. (U.S. Air Force photo by Senior Airman Mya M. Crosby) 🕨





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CLOSE-UP

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Wolf Pack medic gets vaccinated after contracting COVID-19



Senior Airman Aaron Simpson, 8th Operational Medical Readiness Squadron medical technician, provides COVID-19 vaccination documentation to Master Sgt. Linwood Cypress, 8th **Healthcare Operations Squadron** superintendent, at Kunsan Air Base, Republic of Korea, Feb. 1, 2021. (U.S. Air Force photo by Senior Àirman Mya M. Crosby) 🗨

Master Sgt. Linwood Cypress, 8th **Healthcare Operations Squadron** superintendent, fills out COVID-19 vaccination documentation before getting the COVID-19 vaccine at Kunsan Air Base, Republic of Korea, Feb. 1, 2021.(U.S. Air Force photo by Senior Airman Mya M. Crosby) ▼

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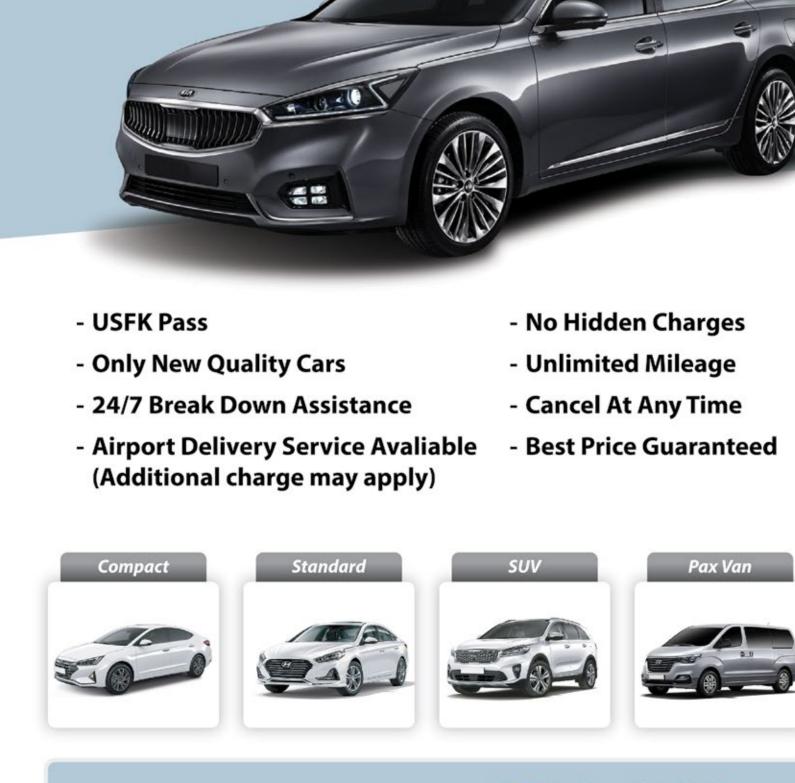
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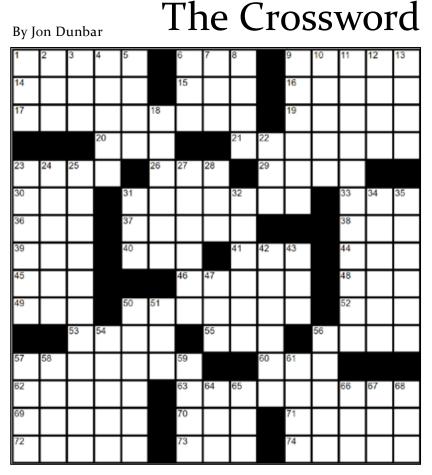
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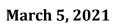
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Photo NEWS

March 5, 2021





ir Force Chief of Staff Gen. Charles Q. Brown, Jr., speaks to the aircrew of a KC-46A Pegasus assigned to the 22nd Air Refueling Wing, after the crew performed aerial refueling operational surveys out of Joint Base Andrews, Md., Feb. 22, 2021. At full operational capability, the KC-46A will be able to provide next generation aerial refueling support to Air Force, Navy, Marine Corps and partner-nation aircraft (U.S. Air Force photo by Tech. Sgt. Chris Drzazgowski) **V**



Photo NEWS

wo U.S. Air Force F-16 Fighting Falcons depart after receiving fuel from a KC-135 Stratotanker, assigned to the 340th Expeditionary Aircraft Refueling Squadron, while flying routine operations over Southwest Asia, Feb. 16, 2021. The F-16 is a compact, multi-role fighter aircraft that delivers airpower to the U.S. Central Command area of responsibility. (U.S. Air Force photo by Staff Sgt. Taylor Harrison) **V**



COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Kunsan

Osan

March 5, 2021

- 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- Learn creative ways to assist newcom-1844 or Commercial (82)63-470-1844 FAX: DSN 315-782-0633 Commercial (82)63-470-0633

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

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

- SPONSOR TRAINING -

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

- ROKAF ENGLISH CLASS -

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

- PING PONG TOURNAMENT -

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

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

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

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

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

Emergency Leave / Red Cross

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

STRESS MANAGEMENT CLASS: Does

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

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

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

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

MUNITIONS 100 PERCENT INVEN-

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

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

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

MUNITIONS 100 PERCENT INVEN-TORY: Ammo will be conducting a 100

(After duty hours)

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

OSAN BASE SHUTTLE CHANGES:

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

YOUTH SPORTS SOCCER REGISTRA-

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

GRAPHICS DESIGNER NEEDED: The

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

784-4811

784-5757

784-1144

784-7000

784-7272

784-5515

Control Center

Kunsan's emergency phone numbers					Osan's emergency phone numbers			
Emergency Services	911				Emergency Services (Fire, Medical,	911	Commander's	
Off Base/Cell	063-470-	Nurse Advice Line	1-800-723-8255		Security Police)		Hotline	
Emergency	0911	Hurse Advice Line	1-000-723-0233	Off Base/Cel		031-661-	Crime Stop:	
	782-5444	IG Complaints FWA Reporting:	782-4850 (duty hours) 782-4942 (anytime) 782-6000		Emergency	9111	(to report a crime)	
Crime Stop: (to report a crime)					Emergency Room:	784-2500	IG Complaints FWA Reporting:	
Base Locator:	782-4743	Chaplain			Base Locator: (after duty hours)	784-4597	Emergency Leave	
(after duty hours) Law Enforcement desk	782-4944	(After duty hours) Sexual Assault Response	782-7272		Force Protection Information Hotline:	115	Sexual Assault Response Coordinator (SARC)	
Emergency Leave / Red Cross		Coordinator (SARC) 782-4601 (on base)			Chaplain (After duty bours)	784-7000	Security Forces	

1-800-733-2761 (anytime)





March 5, 2021



- Correction



CRIMSON SKY

Dr. Gina Sohn - U.S. Dentist Licensed to practice in Massachusetts, **Conneticut & New Jersey. Tufts Graduate..., the Smile Artist!**

- Graduate of Tufts University, School of Dental Medicine – Boston, Mass.
- Studied at University Paris 5 (Rene Descartes).
- Orthodontics trained at USDI.
- NYU Trained for Implant Dentistry.
- Fluent in English, Korean, Japanese & French.



 Cleaning & Check-up, General Dentistry Orthodontics: Braces & Invisalian Cosmetic Dentistry & Smile Makeover, Whitening, Veneers / Lumineers, Gummy Smile

• Dental Implants

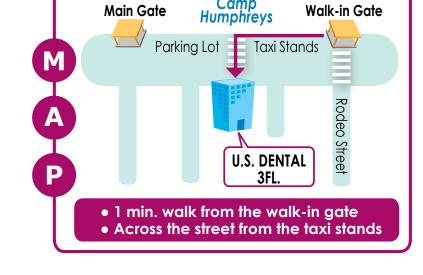
 Root Canal & Wisdom Tooth Extraction Child Dental Care

Professional Affiliations

 American Dental Association Massachusetts Dental Society Connecticut State Dental Association New Jersey Dental Association American Academy of Cosmetic Dentistry American Academy of Implant Dentistry American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry

Direct billing for **TRICARE/CIGNA/GeoBlue**

Assist billing for MetLife/Blue Cross Blue Shield/Delta Dental/Aetna/GEHA/ United Concordia/Foreign Service



U.S. DENTAL

Call: 031-654-2889 www.drginasohn.com



Find us on Facebook: Dr. Gina Sohn Cosmetic Dentist in Seoul



CRIMSON SKY

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March 5, 2021





Everywhere in the world, Hwasung Express is close to you.

Hwasung Express is building a global-scale network of doorto-door one-stop service, through partnerships with major shipping companies, logistics providers, airlines, and others.



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March 5, 2021



ANDERSEN AIR FORCE BASE, **Guam** -- A mass casualty exercise the Japan Air Self-Defense Force, or Koku-Jieitai, Royal Australian medical exercise and ensure mission readiness.

During Cope North 21, the 36th MDG deployed their air transportable clinic and flight medicine team in support of a humanitarian assistance and disaster response exercise. According to 1st Lt. Bailey Counts,

36th MDG Medical Readiness flight commander, this provides our medical teams the skills necessary to execute HA/DR missions in a joint area of responsibility. The team, consisting of a

flight surgeon and two medical technicians, trained with medics

Spotlight

Joint mass casualty exercise conducted at Andersen AFB

By Airman Kaitlyn Preston, Andersen Air Force Base Public Affairs

was conducted at Andersen Air Force Base, Guam, Feb. 10, 2021 as part of Cope North 2021. Members from the 36th Medical Group worked alongside Air Force, 624th Aerospace Medical Squadron and the 18th Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron to carry out a

from JASDF and RAAF to process large numbers of patients from Northwest Field to Andersen AFB through aeromedical evacuation, simulating an island to island mission

"I feel like the exercise is important so that we can implement mission readiness and to be equipped for these circumstances, should they ever arise." said Airman ıst Class Kaitlin Cerda, a mental health technician with the 36th **Operational Medical Readiness** Squadron.

Cerda was selected to assist in loading and unloading patients on the ambulance bus when they reached Andersen AFB. The exercise was complete when patients reached the clinic doors.

The knowledge and skills learned through exercises such as this can be used in deployed environments to save life and limb. Proper patient care is crucial not only to Andersen AFB, but to all our allies in the Indo-Pacific region.



U.S. Air Force Airmen with the 36th Medical Group prepare to store their equipment after completing a mass casualty exercise at Andersen Air Force Base, Guam, Feb. 10, 2021. Exercises such as this allow Airmen to practice safely receiving and transporting patients to and from the necessary locations in order to provide adequate medical care. (U.S. Air Force photo by **Airman Kaitlyn Preston**)

CRIMSON SKY

March 5, 2021

March 5, 2021



By Chaplain, Capt. Dariusz Barna

Tnit visitation is important part of what Chaplains do. As we walk through our assigned units, we take time to talk and establish relationships with airman and squadron leadership. Establishing relationships is an important part of building personal and spiritual resiliency. Several years ago, I was walking through a unit and started up a conversation with an officer. He was part of the leadership team and his subordinates respected him because he went out of his way to take care of each and every

Spiritual Charge STABILITY OF LIFE AMID CRISIS

been selected to attend school and and to see that you are not always in was making plans to PCS. He had control. Giving up control can help also been selected for promotion and free your mind to being more tolerant, the unit celebrated his achievement prior to his departure.

to the local dealer and he picked drugs and gambling. out his dream motorcycle. After he driving back home but tragedy stuck; he was involved in a terrible accident that caused his death.

When I heard the news of his death, I was shocked and depressed. I remember grieving after losing my friend. Unexpected tragedies that enter our lives cause us to stop and happen the way they do.

A while back, I came across this useful list of things to do when you experience a personal tragedy. Let me share with you 6 important get through the hard times.

First, embrace uncertainty and be open to the unexpected. Each day that we live, we encounter challenges and struggles. Many of the problems that creative and innovative.

Secondly, work on being This officer told me that he conscientiousness. Caring about the had always dreamed of owning a small details gives us the ability to thoughts and behaviors tend to have motorcycle. He wanted to experience maintain better quality friendships; the freedom of the open road. Once it enable us to reach our life goals. he arrived at his new duty station, A conscientious person is less like he and his wife drove their car down to get into trouble with drinking.

Thirdly, get outside yourself. concluded the transaction, he was Everyone can engage in social activities and be more satisfied in relationships. Obviously, it's more challenging to be outgoing during pandemics but all of us should try our best to reach out to others. That's why planning how to spend free time.

Next, learn to be more agreeable. have any answers for why things are more likely to be generous, charitable, have more satisfying romantic relationships, and lie less encounter good and bad days. Nobody about themselves online.

Number 5 in this line up is that you turn away from self-centered things you can do that will help you behaviors, thoughts and actions. The truth of the matter is that most humans struggle with selfcenteredness. Psychologists call this focus on the self as "neuroticism." and always be conscious of those Of course, all of us should strive to who may be lonely. A friendly smile we face are outside of our personal take care of ourselves. However, self- can go a long way and allow others member. The officer had recently control. You must learn to be flexible care has an ugly side when we put to have a good day!

only our needs in front of everyone else's. Self-centeredness can breed negative emotions that plague our thoughts and sap our energy. Medical research shows that people that have super high levels of self-centered more health complaints and be more addicted to substance abuse.

I would advise people in crisis, who often develop negative thinking about others, to work on a higher level of conscientiousness, including being responsible for family and self. Practicing these behaviors and attitude will lead to better health and less stress, and safe ways of "having fun" with family and friends.

Finally, adopt an optimistic it's essential to be intentional about mindset. Optimism style of thinking, which involves having a positive outlook on the future and minimizing ask why? Most of the time, we don't People who are high in agreeableness problems. It is linked to better health and increased longevity.

> As you live out your life, you will knows the future, except God. You will face lots of adversity, challenges and tragedies. I would encourage you to be ready for the challenging days ahead by practicing the attitudes and actions that I just described.

Let us remember to live life safely

KUNSAN AIR BASE

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

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

Other Worship Opportunities LDS Service Sunday, 1:00 p.m. SonLight Inn, Bldg. 510

Point of Contact: Kunsan Chapel, 782-HOPE

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

OSAN AIR BASE

CHAPEL SCHEDULE

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

Chapel Offices:

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

Chapel Worship Services:

Protestant service times/location: Protestant Services are now being held at the base theater across from the Exchange o Community Service @ 0900

> o Gospel Service @ 1100 Catholic service times/location:

Catholic Sunday Masses are now being held at the Mustang Center o Confession @ 0830 o First Mass @ 0900 o Confession @ 1030

o Second Mass @ 1100

Catholic Daily Masses will be held in building 769 (former AFRC bldg): o Tuesday – Thursday @ 1130

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

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

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

HUMPHREYS

Protestant Services - Sundays -9:00 a.m. Liturgical Service - PVC 9:30 & 11:00 a.m. Agape (Contemporary) - 4CMC 11:00 a.m. Common Ground (Traditional) - FRDC 10:00 a.m. Burning Bush (Gospel) - WRC 10:30 a.m. Church of Christ - PVC 11:00 a.m. Spanish Service - PVC 11:00 p.m. Apostolic Pentecostal Lighthouse Service - WRC 6:00 p.m. KATUSA Service - PVC

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

- Sundays -2:00 /3:15 p.m. Sacrament Meeting - FRDC 2:30-3:30 p.m. Sunday School - FRDC 3:30-4:30 Unaccompanied/Single SMs Meal - FRDC POC: CH Brizzee 010-8921-1736; tyler.f.brizzee.mil@mail.mil

Saturday, 3:00-5:00 p.m. Adoration - FRDC Saturday, 3:30-4:30 p.m. Reconciliation/Confession - FRDC Saturday, 4:40 p.m. Rosary/Benediction - FRDC Saturday, 4:40 p.m. Rosaty/ benediction - Fi Saturday, 5:30 p.m. Vigil Mass - FRDC Sunday, 9:00 a.m. Mass - FRDC M-F, 5:30 p.m. Mass - FRDC

Jewish 2nd & 4th Friday, 5:00 p.m. Shabbat Evening Service - 4CMC POC: CH(Cpt) Daniel Kamzam daniel.j,kamzam.mil@mail.mil

Friday, 12:00-13:00 p.m. Jumah Service - PVC Sunday, 1:00-3:00 p.m. Islamic/Arabic Classes - PVC POC: Sfc. Kamel 010-8449-3024; mohammed.a.kamel.mil@mail.mil

Seventh Day Adventist POC: Mai, Delavega 010-3917-6478; david.r.delavega.mil@mail.mil

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



Photo NEWS

C rimson S ky | Page 23





pecial tactics operators assigned to the 24th Special Operations Wing, and forward area refueling point members assigned to the 1st Special Operations Logistics Readiness Squadron, coordinate with U.S. Navy MH-60 Seahawk helicopters and an Air Force MC-130H, to establish a forward arming and refueling point location during exercise Emerald Warrior 21.1, at Hurlburt Field, Fla., Feb. 20, 2021. Emerald Warrior is the largest joint special operations exercise involving U.S. Special Operations Command forces training to respond to various threats across the spectrum of conflict. (U.S. Air Force photo by Senior Airman Edward Coddington)



S. Air Force Capt. Gene Walker signals a C-130J Super Hercules as it approaches the landing zone during exercise Cope North in Angaur. Palau, Feb. 11, 2021. The annual exercise enhances U.S. relations with regional allies and partners, and promotes security and stability throughout the Indo-Pacific region. (U.S. Air Force photo by Airman 1st Class Cole Yardley)

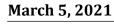
embers of the Ohio Air National Guard's 200th RED HORSE Squadron help clear roads in Gallia and Lawrence counties Feb. 23, 2021, in southern Ohio. More than 100 members of the Ohio National Guard were called in to assist local authorities after a recent ice storm. RED HORSE stands for Rapid Engineer Deployable Heavy **Operations Repair Squadron Engineers. (U.S. Air National Guard Photo** by 2nd Lt. Christi A. Richter)

NEWS

< Continued from front page >



March 5, 2021





Jenkins: Cincinnati, Ohio

3) What ROTC Detachment did you both attend? What years were you there/commission? Harrison/Jenkins: Air Force ROTC, Detachment 015 at Tuskegee University from 2006-2011.

4) Were you close friends as cadets?

Harrison: You know it! We became friends at PT we had to attend every morning. We've been best bro's ever since!

Jenkins: You could say that! We were combatpaired in ROTC from the beginning. We became roommates for our final two years... it's been a brotherhood since the first day of PT.

5) How was your experience in ROTC together? Harrison: It was good, it's fun when you have a

good friend to go through the program with. Lots of fun times. I convinced him to be cool and get some wings!

Jenkins: Overall, it was a really wholesome experience. I was much newer to the concept of pursuing a military career, so I leaned on Tuco pretty hard in the beginning as I navigated an unfamiliar arena. Actually, Tuco was one of the main influencers on my decision to pursue the pilot AFSC; I was dead-set on being an engineer, completing 4-yr ADSC and getting out. We had many conversations during our sophomore year, where he constantly tried to get me to submit for pilot. Talk about peer pressure.

6) When did you go through pilot training?





each other around for training?

brag)!

He was on his way to becoming an Air Force engineer. After many long conversations, Harrison was able to convince Jenkins to compete for a pilot slot.

"It's fun when you have a good friend to go through the program with," Harrison said. "I convinced him to be cool and get some wings!"

The two became roommates for their last two years of college, dreaming of one day flying together in the same unit. Both were selected to become pilots. They pushed each other to finish strong in ROTC.

After four years of hard work, the duo commissioned into Air Force. They attended UPT together at Laughlin Air Force Base, Texas.

"Pilot training is a rigorous, exhaustive, timeconsuming program," Jenkins said. "So to have your best friend around as you both experience the highs and lows of a formal training course was definitely a game-changer."

In August 2012, a little over a year after arriving at Laughlin AFB, they graduated from UPT in the top 15 percent of their class.

"Completing pilot training was by far the most rewarding experience of my life; and to achieve that goal with my brother just made it even more meaningful," Jenkins added. "We were personally invested in each other's success, and that sentiment manifested into the whole team winning. That's something I'll never forget."

The next eight years kept them busy and assigned to different units around the Air Force, but their friendship remained strong and they kept in touch.

"We ran into each other a few times over the years," Harrison said. "We attended each other's B-course graduations, spoke together at an alumni panel at our alma mater, and met up for Oktoberfest in Germany!"

Fast forward nine years into their military careers, and the friends found their paths finally crossing yet again. Their dreams of flying in the same unit finally came true, when they were both assigned to the Wolf Pack's 8oth Fighter Squadron.

"We flew in a formation together for the first time ever back in September 2020, for Bane's local area orientation," Harrison said. "Also flew a cool night sortie with him a few months back."

It's been a minute, but according to the two pilots, not too much has changed since their days in ROTC.

"Tuco has grown taller and hit the weights since college, so it's a little more difficult for me to bully him these days," Jenkins joked. "It's an adjustment that I'm slowly coming to terms with."

Tuco and Bane continue to "Crush 'Em!" as Juvat pilots, all the while enjoying the time they get to work and fly together once again.

"It's pretty dope," Jenkins said. "Tuco and I have been plotting to fly in the same unit since the day I got my Viper assignment in 2016, so it's surreal to finally see that come to fruition." "For us," Harrison added. "We're just two best

friends getting paid to fly some cool jets!"

1) State your full names and job at the Wolf Pack.

Harrison: Maj Chris "Tuco" Harrison: 80th Fighter Squadron, Assistant Director of Operations/80th Fighter Squadron, Chief of Standards and Evaluations

Jenkins: Maj Douglas "Bane" Jenkins, Program Manager, 8th Fighter Wing Advanced Programs Office

2) Where are you both originally from? Harrison: Baltimore, Maryland

NEWS



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Maj. Douglas "Bane" Jenkins, 8th **Fighter Wing Advanced Programs** Office program manager, and Maj. Chris "Tuco" Harrison, 8th Fighter Squadron assistant director of operations and chief of standards and evaluations, pose for a photo in front of an F-16 Fighting Falcon on the flightline at Kunsan Air Base, Republic of Korea, Feb. 17, 2021. Harrison and Jenkins attended **Tuskegee University together and** are now both assigned to the same unit at the Wolf Pack. (U.S. Air Force photo by Senior Airman Suzie Plotnikov) <

Jenkins decided to become a pilot in the U.S. Air Force after attending ROTC at Tuskegee University from 2006-2011. (U.S. Air Force photo by Senior Airman Suzie Plotnikov) 🛡

Harrison commissioned out of Tuskegee University ROTC detachment back in 2011 and follwoed his dream to become a pilot in the U.S. Air Force. (U.S. Air Force photo by Senior Airman Suzie Plotnikov) V

Did you go together? If so, what was it like having

Harrison: We were basically attached at the hip from 2006 all the way to 2012. We went through pilot training in the same class and flight from May 2011-August 2012. I was actually slated for a later class than he was but someone dropped out so I moved up to Bane's class. Super glad it worked out that way. Being in the same UPT class was a touchdown! We basically leaned on each other throughout the process for us to make it to graduating in the top 15% of our class (humble

Jenkins: Tuco and I went through pilot training at Laughlin AFB, TX from 2011-2012. We actually were in the same class, which was a huge help! Pilot training is a rigorous, exhaustive, timeconsuming program, so to have your best friend around as you both experience the highs and lows of a formal training course was definitely a game-changer. Completing pilot training was by far the most rewarding experience of my life; and to achieve that goal with my brother just made it even more meaningful. We were personally invested in each other's success, and that sentiment manifested into the whole team winning. That's something I'll never forget. 7) What bases have you both been to before?

Harrison: Laughlin AFB (Pilot Training), Randolph AFB (Intro to Fighter Fundamentals), Luke AFB (F-16 B Course), Homestead ARB (First CAF Unit), Kunsan AB (Pantons), Eielson AFB (18th Aggressors), Kunsan (Juvats!/Present)

Jenkins: I stayed at Laughlin as a First Assignment Instructor Pilot (FAIP), then in 2016 I went to F-16 B-Course at Kelly Field, JBSA-Lackland, TX. Prior to my Kunsan assignment, I was assigned to the 555th Fighter Squadron, Aviano AB, IT.

8) Being stationed in Kunsan, was this the first time you saw each other since you commissioned? Have you stayed in touch prior to getting here?

Harrison: Of course not! There was UPT for one...we also ran into each other a few times over the years, We attended each other's B course graduation, spoke together at an alumni panel at our alma mater, and met up for Oktoberfest in Germany! So yeah..quite a few meet ups.

Jenkins: We were able to meet up several times in-between this assignment and UPT. He's my brother, so we always stayed in touch throughout the years.

9) What's it like having an old friend from college now working at the Wolf Pack here in Korea?

Harrison: It's awesome! The Wolfpack tends

to build comradery through experiences you encounter here.

Jenkins: It's pretty dope. Tuco and I have been plotting to fly in the same unit since the day I got my Viper assignment in 2016, so it's surreal to finally see that come to fruition.

10) How is it working together? Are there special/unique experiences you've shared working together at Kunsan?

Harrison: It's great, we flew in a formation together for the first time ever back in September 2020 for Bane's local area orientation. Also flew a cool night sortie with him a few months back.

Jenkins: We've actually flown together several times, so that's checked off the bucket list!

11) Since the time you've both commissioned, what major life changes has happened? (Marriage, kids, ect)

Harrison: Individually a lot..but for us, just two best friends getting paid to fly some cool jets!

Jenkins: Probably the only thing is Tuco has grown taller and hit the weights since college, so it's a little more difficult for me to bully him these days. It's an adjustment that I'm slowly coming to terms with.

12) Is there anything else you'd like to add? Harrison: Crush 'Em! Jenkins: Crush 'Em!

CRIMSON SKY

March 5, 2021

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FAMILY SERVING **(FAMILY**

March 5, 2021



possible.

influenza shot.

during the town hall.

"If you get vaccinated, you're doing [your part] to protect someone else who might be at risk," said Dr. Steven Cersovsky, deputy director of the Army Public Health Center. "As long as you remain unvaccinated, you can become infected and pass it along to other people. You're part of that transmission chain."

But many Soldiers remain nervous about the COVID-19 vaccine's safety, said Lt. Gen. Leslie Smith, the Army's inspector general, whether it's a choice based on their medical history, apprehensiveness because of its expedited approval, based on something they read online, or simply because they declined to offer a reason at all.

Soldiers may even "just want to wait and see how others react to the vaccine," Smith said. But, like with the rest of the senior leaders on stage, he assured all Soldiers the vaccines are safe.

Why it's safe

rigorous reviews of the clinical trials.

ARMY NEWS

'Be part of the solution': **Army leaders** urge Šoldiers to get COVID-19 vaccine

By Thomas Brading, Army News Service

lthough safety guidelines are in place to stem the spread of COVID-19, vaccines are what will end the virus, top Army medical leaders said during a virtual town hall Monday, in an effort to encourage Soldiers to get vaccinated as soon as

For now, the coronavirus vaccine is voluntary for Soldiers, but following full approval from the Food and Drug Administration, FDA, or if the president waives the option for them to receive it, the vaccine may become mandatory, similar to the

But with limited supplies, it's unlikely either will happen soon. Instead, Army medical leaders are imploring all Soldiers, when their time comes, to take the vaccine and "be part of the solution," said Army Surgeon General Lt. Gen. Scott R. Dingle

Both Pfizer and Moderna vaccines were given the green light for emergency use by the FDA, which means although they have not completed every meticulous round of testing required by the administration, a process that often takes a decade to complete, they were determined safe following

During the initial trials, researchers tested the then-experimental vaccines on a small group of people for the first time. In Phase 2 trials, the experimental vaccines were given to a larger group of people to see if they were effective and to further assess their safety. Phase 3 trials were administered to an even larger pool of people.

The trials give researchers enough data to confirm effectiveness, gauge potential side effects, the ability to compare it to other commonly used treatments, and to collect additional information needed to allow the experimental drug or treatment to be safely used.

The FDA also combs through all the raw data collected by researchers to ensure safety, immune response, and efficacy from the trial stages before they are allowed for use and distribution.

Safety and effectiveness is a top concern with the development of the vaccines and researchers believe women trying to get pregnant in the short and long term will not have complications, Cersovsky said.

"Each person needs to make an individual decision with their health care provider regarding getting the vaccine while pregnant, lactating, or if they plan on becoming pregnant soon," he added.

"I urge you to make certain that your families also get the vaccines," Dingle said as if speaking directly to individual Soldiers. "Do your part to protect yourselves, your family, and friends, and remain combat-ready. Let me emphasize these vaccines are equally effective on everyone -- I have received the vaccine, and I hope you follow suit and get the vaccine when it is available.

Myth versus reality

The town hall also gave the medical leaders a chance to set the record straight on misbeliefs concerning the vaccine. For example, despite some theories, vaccinations have no serious side effects, said Col. Jennifer McDannald, Army Public Health Center director, in a pre-recorded video leading into the town hall.

For individuals who have reported side effects, the most common is pain at the injection site, which usually subsides within 24 hours, she said. Although some people have experienced fever, chills, tiredness and headaches; those minor cases are resolved within a few days and are not signs of COVID infection.

While the vaccines may likely stop COVID-19, Soldiers should continue using preventive measures to ensure the vaccine has the most effective chance of working, said Command Sgt. Maj. Diamond D. Hough, senior enlisted leader of U.S. Army Medical Command.

"Vaccines are among the most important accomplishments in modern medicine," Dingle said. "They have saved more lives around the world than any other medical innovation, including antibiotics and surgery itself."

If someone does have a negative response to the first of the two-shot vaccine, such as difficulty breathing, they should not take the second dose, Cersovsky said. However, previously experiencing adverse reactions to flu shots does not predict potential complications from the COVID-19 vaccination.

For Hough, taking the vaccine isn't a gamble. It's an assurance. "[The vaccines] are safe for everyone," he said. "The vaccines for COVID-19 are only made available after being demonstrated to be safe and effective. [They] have been manufactured and distributed safely and securely as well."

Maintaining readiness

One of the town hall's top messages was trust. The senior leaders urged Soldiers to trust the science, and the Army, because that was the biggest way to ensure overall readiness, they said.

"Our people are important, and safely navigating this pandemic is critical because it's a matter of Army readiness," Hough said. "These vaccines are an important part of ensuring we are fit. We need you to stay healthy, not just our Soldiers, but our families, civilians and contractors as well.

"To ensure maximum Army readiness, we are asking for your assistance and your trust," he added. "We must continue to maintain the highest level of readiness to meet our worldwide responsibilities."

Right now, over 100,000 Soldiers are deployed in 140 countries. According to Hough, fighting COVID-19 is just as important as any of their deployments because "we must be ready to win decisively here at home, and that means beating this pandemic.'

To date, the Army has vaccinated over 300,000 personnel. That tally, along with the individuals following health guidelines, has offered protection against COVID-19, said Christopher Lowman, the senior official performing the duties of the undersecretary of the Army.

In the meantime, the undersecretary said the prevention guidelines haven't changed: individuals still need to cover their nose and mouth, maintain social distancing, clean and disinfect their workspaces and wash their hands.

"I understand the concerns about getting vaccinated, however, safety has been the No. 1 priority in developing and administrating these vaccines," Lowman said, who said he has received the vaccine with no adverse effects. "Building a defense against COVID-19 helps your office or unit, helps our Army, and our nation."