



Women's History Month: Closing the 1A (pilot) gender gap

By Capt. Kaylin Hankerson 8th Fighter Wing Public Affairs

Korat Royal Thai Air Force Base, Thailand -- Each year, the Department of the Air Force recognizes March as Women's History Month to honor women, past and present, who have contributed to the service's success. The 8th Fighter Wing is following suit, spotlighting women of various Air Force Specialty Codes throughout the month to showcase how female Airmen are essential members of the Wolf Pack and its Fight Tonight mission.

The latest Air Force Personnel Data Center data shows that 21.4 percent of active duty members are women. Although content featuring some of the 326 thousand female Airmen is deliberately prioritized during March, according to leaders like Col. Matthew Gaetke, 8th Fighter Wing commander, showcasing the diversity of our force is a priority year-round.

"The diversity of our force, in ethnicity, culture, religion, and gender, gives us an edge that sets us apart from other militaries," said Gaetke. "Recruiting and retaining Airmen from all backgrounds, each of

whom brings unique perspectives and experiences, and then breaking down barriers to their service and contribution by making sure their voice is heard is essential to the innovation we need. That certainly includes the voices of women. While we've made progress over the years, we still have a lot of work to do breaking down barriers!"

While official barriers have been removed for women to serve, some duties still have a gender ratio gap. The 1A Air Force specialty code, pilots, is one career field that is still struggling.

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80th Fighter, Fighter Generation Squadron 'crush' Cobra Gold 24

Aviation allies: Osan hosts Buddy Squadron 24-2

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Today, of the 21.4 percent female Airmen recorded in 2023, only 8 percent are pilots, and the number almost cuts in half when specified down to fighter aircraft like the F-16 Fighting Falcon that the 8th Fighter Wing employs.

"The numbers have stayed at about three to four percent since they opened up fighters to women back in the 8os," said Capt. Sarah Gregory, 35th Fighter Squadron fighter pilot. "The goal is to increase that number, get more ladies in aircraft, and be a part of our awesome, 'chick fighter pilot' community."

Despite only being one of two women in the squadron, Gregory says she's received a regular fighter pilot experience,

"I don't really notice that I'm different or one of only a handful, and that is a testament to all the guys. It's not until another woman shows up to the squadron or I'm out at an event, and young girls come up to me that I'm

Observances like Women's History Month have given female Airmen across the force larger platforms for their messages and created spokeswomen out of women who work in male-dominated career fields so girls and young women can hopefully emulate them in the future. Proud to represent the community, Gregory has a slightly different message to the next generation that she wants to push this year,

"You don't have to have a female role model to do it! There doesn't have to be a woman who came before you or who did it first in order for you to do it. Set your goals, find people to help you—whether they look like you or not doesn't matter... keep driving towards your goal."

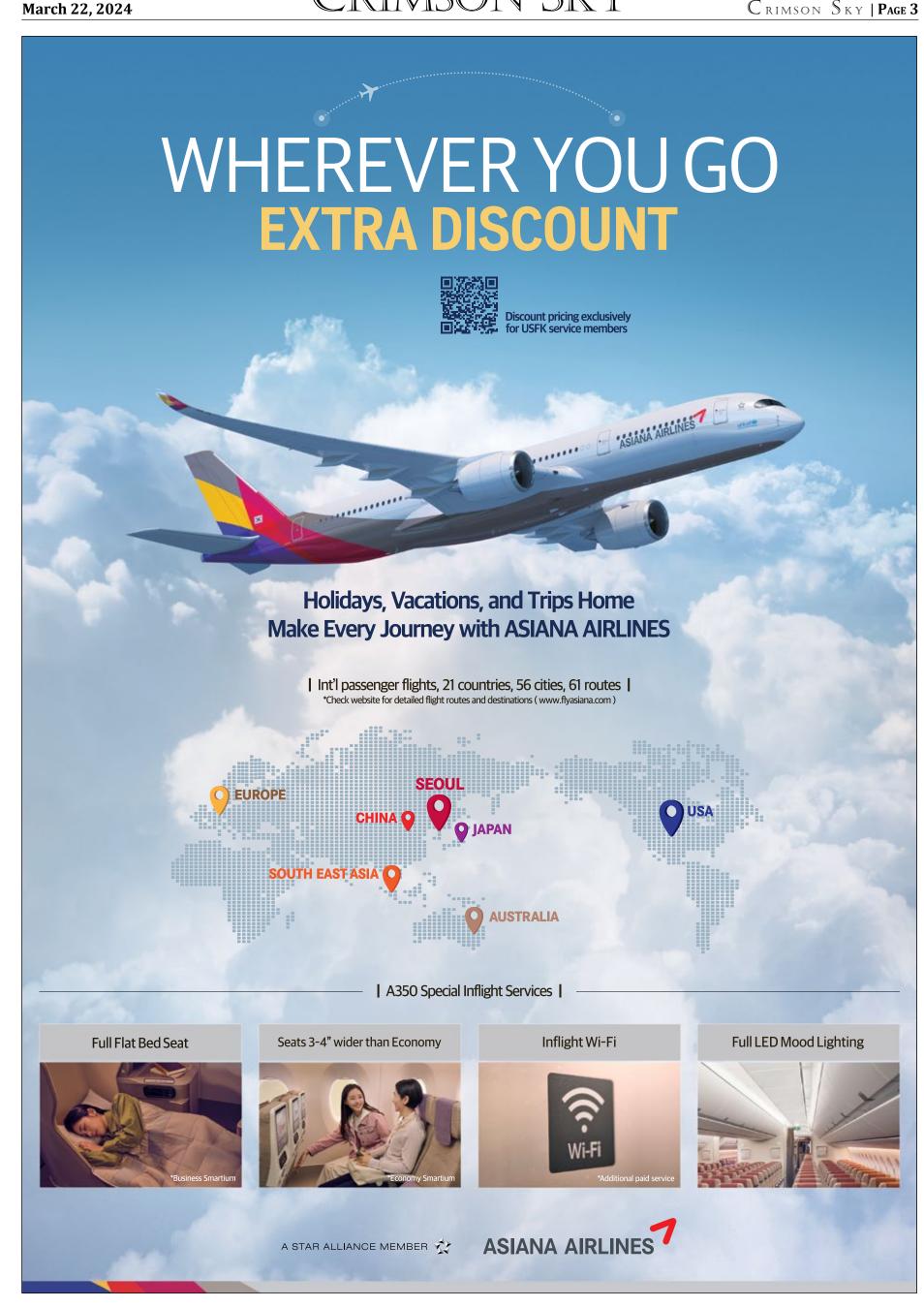
Capt. Megan Langas, 80th Fighter Squadron F-16 Fighting Falcon pilot, dons on helmet before flight departure at Korat Royal Thai Air Force Base, Thailand, March 4, 2024. The U.S. Air Force recognizes Women's History Month each year to honor the women, past and present, who have contributed to the service's success. (U.S. Air Force photo by Senior Airman Karla Parra) ▲



Capt. Megan Langas, right, 80th Fighter Squadron F-16 Fighting Falcon pilot, conducts a preflight check with Senior Airman Davis Flowers, 80th Fighter Generation Squadron dedicated crew chief, at Korat Royal Thai Air Force Base, Thailand, March 4, 2024. The U.S. Air Force recognizes Women's History Month each year to honor the women, past and present, who have contributed to the service's success. (U.S. Air Force photo by Senior Airman Karla Parra) ▲



Capt. Sarah Gregory, 35th Fighter Squadron F-16 Fighting Falcon pilot conducts a preflight procedures before flight departure at Korat Royal Thai Air Force Base, Thailand, March 11, 2024. Women's History Month is celebrated around the world to recognize the achievements without regard to divisions, whether national, ethnic, linguistic, cultural, economic or political affiliations. (U.S. Air Force photo by Senior Airman Karla Parra)



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Maj. Rex Anderson, 8th Fighter Wing weapons officer, performs a gesture of squadron pride before departing for a routine flight in preparation for Cope Tiger 24 at Korat Royal Thai Air Force Base, Thailand, March 11, 2024. CT 24 is an annual trilateral exercise taking place this year March 18-29. The exercise contributes to the U.S. Indo-Pacific Command's strategic vision of strengthening Alliances and partnerships to ensure regional peace and prosperity allowing participating service members a unique opportunity to fly over Thailand's airspace while training with air defense units. (U.S. Air Force photo by Senior Airman Karla Parra) ▲

35th Fighter Squadron Pantons 'push' west for Cope Tiger 2024

By Capt. K. Paige Hankerson 8th Fighter Wing Public Affairs

Korat Royal Thai Air Force Base, Thailand -- The 35th Fighter Squadron, assigned to the 8th Fighter Wing, Kunsan Air Base, Republic of Korea, is set to participate in Exercise Cope Tiger 2024, 18-29 March at Korat Royal Thai Air Force Base, Thailand.

Cope Tiger is an annual, trilateral exercise hosted by the U.S. Pacific Air Forces in conjunction with The Royal Thai Air Force and the Republic of Singapore Air Force to enhance combat readiness and combined multinational joint interoperability of the combined force. Personnel from the 35th FS arrived on 8 March, taking time to familiarize themselves with the airspace and meet with international counterparts in preparation for flying to begin on the 18th.

"We have been looking forward to participating in the exercise and the opportunity to integrate with Singaporean and Thai forces," said Lt. Col. Eric Broyles, 35th Fighter Squadron commander. "As members of the Wolf Pack [8th Fighter Wing], we routinely fly with other nations in Korea, but it is nice to extend our network and integrate with other partners that help maintain a free and open Indo-Pacific region for all." During the two-week exercise,



An F-16 Fighting Falcon taxis out for a routine training flight ahead of for Cope Tiger 24 at Korat Royal Thai Air Force Base, Kingdom of Thailand, March 12, 2024. CT 24 is an annual trilateral aerial exercise taking place this year March 18-29. The exercise contributes to the U.S. Indo-Pacific Command's strategic vision of strengthening Alliances and partnerships to ensure regional peace and prosperity allowing participating service members a unique opportunity to fly over Thailand's airspace while training with air defense units. (U.S. Air Force photo by Senior Airman Karla Parra)

35th Fighter Squadron personnel will integrate F-16C aircraft with RSAF F-15SGs, RTAF F-16As, and USAF F-35A aircraft in the skies over Thailand.

"This year is the 30th Anniversary of the Cope Tiger exercise which is a testament to the strength of the partnership between the U.S., Singapore and Thailand. Our commitment to improving as a combined force showcases that partnership is the foundation of stability in the region," said Broyles. The 35th FS' sister squadron, the 80th FS, recently completed participation in joint exercise Cobra Gold. Its maintenance team and aircraft remained in place for Cope Tiger as continuity on the ground in Korat and to ease logistical coordination for the PACAF units to participate in both exercises.

"The decision was made to have the Wolf
Pack operate as a team, not so focused on
individual squadrons, to fill this tasking," said
Col. Jeffrey Shulman, 8th Fighter Wing deputy
wing commander. "It made sense to leave the iron
and maintenance team from Cobra Gold to avoid
levying an additional tanker requirement on U.S.
Transportation Command while allowing both of the
fighter squadrons' pilots the opportunity to fly and
integrate with the Royal Thai Air Force."

8th FW participation not only demonstrates U.S. commitment to two integral partner nations, but that partnership is critical to address regional security threats, humanitarian crises, and natural disasters.



Senior Airman Thomas Purdy, 80th Fighter Generation Squadron dedicated crew chief, marshals an F-16 Fighting Falcon for a routine flight before Cope Tiger 24 at Korat Royal Thai Air Force Base, Thailand, March 11, 2024. Multilateral training exercises like CT 24 reinforce our commitment to peace and prosperity in the region. CT 24 builds relationships that bridge language barriers and enhance our collective ability to address the most pressing security challenges we face to improve regional security and protect a free and open Indo-Pacific. (U.S. Air Force photo by Senior Airman Karla Parra)

7th Air Force bids farewell to Commander's Mobilization Assistant



51 FW trains lethality at Misawa AB during Ninja Mustang

By Airman 1st Class Chase Verzaal 51st Fighter Wing Public Affairs

MISAWA AIR BASE, Japan -- U.S. Airmen assigned to the 51st Fighter Wing participated in Ninja Mustang, a training event continuing the Ninja Draggin series that implemented Agile combat employment (ACE) for the 51st FW after relocating to other bases within the Indo-Pacific region, taking place from March 5-7, 2024, at Misawa Air Base, Japan.

The training allowed 51st FW Airmen to be put to the test, operating with limited manpower and resources, in a new and unfamiliar country.

"Ninja Mustang is a training event that creates an opportunity to operate at our full capability in an unfamiliar location, and find a way to integrate with other air assets in the Pacific Air Forces' region," said U.S. Air Force Capt. Jacob Stafford, 25th Fighter Squadron A-10C Thunderbolt II pilot. "It proves that we are able to operate anywhere and can execute the mission using very limited manpower and resources."

The training included participation from four 51st FW pilots and eight pilots from the 13th Fighter Squadron, who all utilized threat replicators that simulated a realistic adversarial targeting system.

The 13th FS incorporated the 25th and 36th FS into routine training, allowing 51st FW pilots to execute training missions while navigating simulated enemy ground defense systems targeting them.

This training fostered a realistic operational environment and proactively boost the 51st FW's operational prowess for rapid responses to threats in dynamic, contested areas.

"Getting to work with other fighter squadrons in the pacific area of responsibility allows us to adapt and learn how to perform operationally in a new and different environment," said Lt. Col. Justin Ledvina, 25th Fighter Squadron A-10C Thunderbolt II pilot. "Having this exposure makes us better aviators, and more lethal assets for the 51st Fighter Wing."

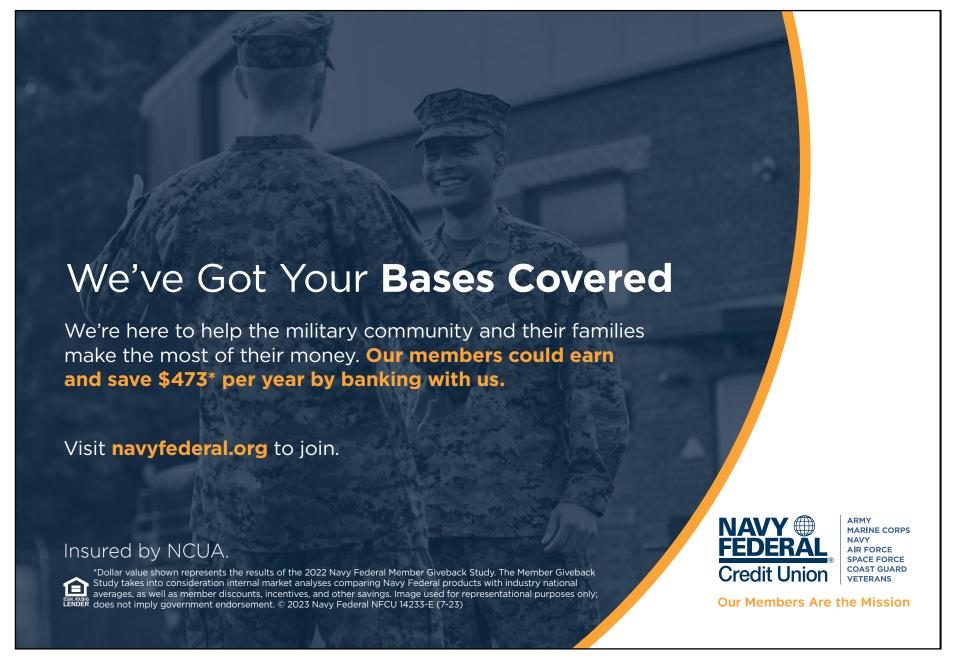


U.S. Air Force A-10C Thunderbolt IIs assigned to the 25th Fighter Squadron, taxi a runway during the Ninja Mustang training event at Misawa Air Base, Japan, March 7, 2024. Ninja Mustang allowed the 51st FW to integrate with other units throughout the pacific theater, to strengthen the agile combat employment of the 51st FW. ACE ensures the 51st FW remains adaptable in new situations, maintains readiness to counter emerging threats and sustain operational effectiveness with our allies. (U.S. Air Force photo by Airman 1st Class Chase Verzaal)



U.S. Air Force Capt. Jacob Stafford, 25th Fighter Squadron A-10C Thunderbolt II pilot, left, and Lt. Col. Justin Ledvina, 25th FS director of operations, pose for a photo during the Ninja Mustang training event at Misawa Air Base, Japan, March 7, 2024. Ninja Mustang is a training event within the Ninja Draggin series, where 51st FW Airmen relocate to collaborate with units across the Pacific. This initiative enhances the lethality and coordination of units within the pacific theater. During the training event, the two aircraft from the 25th Fighter Squadron successfully relocated to a different portion of the pacific area of responsibility, and to effectively delivered 12,000 lbs of simulated munitions to their targets. (U.S. Air Force photo by Airman 1st Class Chase Verzaal) ▲

U.S. Air Force Capt. Jacob Stafford, 25th Fighter Squadron A-10C Thunderbolt II pilot, left, and Lt. Col. Justin Ledvina, 25th FS director of operations, pack bags before a flight during the Ninja Mustang training event at Misawa Air Base, Japan, March 7, 2024. The 25th FS organized the training event to develop more lethal Airmen within the 51st Fighter Wing, who can perform their job and execute the mission in an unfamiliar location with limited resources. Ninja Mustang is a training event within the Ninja Draggin series, where 51st FW Airmen relocate to collaborate with units across the Pacific. This initiative enhances the lethality and coordination of units within the pacific theater. (U.S. Air Force photo by Airman 1st Class Chase Verzaal) ◀









Airmen with the 80th Fighter Squadron and the 80th Fighter Generation Squadron strike a 'Crush 'Em' pose for a group photo in front of two F-16 Fighting Falcons during Joint Exercise Cobra Gold 24 at Korat Royal Thai Air Force Base, Thailand, March 7, 2024. The 8th Fighter Wing has maintained participation in Cobra Gold throughout the exercises' 43-year history, demonstrating the commitment to ensuring a free and open Indo-Pacific region. (U.S. Air Force photo by Senior Airman Joao Marcus Costa)

80th Fighter, Fighter Generation Squadron 'crush' Cobra Gold 24

By Capt. Kaylin Hankerson 8th Fighter Wing Public Affairs

KORAT ROYAL THAI AIR FORCE BASE, Kingdom of Thailand -- 8oth Fighter and Fighter Generation Squadron personnel and F-16 Fighting Falcon aircraft concluded participation in Joint Exercise Cobra Gold 2024 at Korat Royal Thai Air Force Base, Thailand, on March 8, 2024. The 43rd iteration of the exercise brought together service members from seven nations from Feb. 26 to March 9 to enhance regional peace and stability.

Throughout the two-week multinational exercise, 80th Fighter Squadron pilots flew 96 sorties and more than 160 flying hours over the skies of Thailand, executing 13 large force exercises that combined offensive and defensive counter-air measures as well as six combined joint all-domain operations with aircrew from the Royal Thai Air Force. The squadron, consisting of several young pilots, credits Cobra Gold 24 with equipping fliers from both sides of the Thai-American alliance with valuable experience with interoperability.

"This was a great opportunity to test mission planning procedures at the multinational level," said Lt. Col. Brandon



Lt. Col. Brandon July, 80th Fighter Squadron commander and F-16 Fighting Falcon pilot, performs a gesture of squadron pride before departure during Joint Exercise Cobra Gold 24 at Korat Royal Thai Air Force Base, Kingdom of Thailand, Feb. 29, 2024. Cobra Gold 24 is an exercise designed to provide the U.S., its Allies, and mission partners a venue to execute complex and realistic operations to build interoperability. (U.S. Air Force photo by Senior Airman Karla Parra)

July, 80th Fighter Squadron commander. "Cobra Gold 24 allowed us to solidify what integration looks like on both sides of the Alliance [Thai-American] and became a rather seamless process that proved we can come together to get after common objectives for the region."

An annual exercise, Cobra Gold is designed to provide the U.S., its Allies, and mission partners a venue to execute complex and realistic operations. The 8oth Fighter Generation Squadron and 8th Maintenace Squadron personnel benefited from the exercise's realistic scenarios and change in location.

"Our team executed well in a contingency-like environment, with live munitions building and loading, and unconventional aircraft generation... all of which should give us a lot of confidence in our ability to execute the mission from anywhere," said Capt. Sophie Rizzo, 80th Fighter Generation Squadron director of operations. "Whether it was collaborating with the Royal Thai Air Force maintainers to mitigate constrained resources, working with our 934 Air Wing reserve partners for military airlift, or coordinating with US and Thai Army on munitions' employment, the Juvats showcased commitment to partnership."

The 8th Fighter Wing has maintained participation in the Cobra Gold annually throughout the exercise's 43-year history and looks forward to the training it provides personnel.

"This is an exercise we always look forward to," said July. "Taking the team on the road, interacting with our international partners and weaving what we do into the larger picture... the combined force's plan with the other services, is a highlight in the grand scheme of our tours at Kunsan."

To read more about the Wolf Pack's participation in Cobra Gold 2024, visit: https://www.kunsan.af.mil/-Wolf-Pack-News/



Members from the 80th Fighter Generation Squadron provide maintenance support for the departure of F-16 Fighting Falcons assigned to the 80th Fighter Squadron, during Joint Exercise Cobra Gold 24 at Korat Royal Thai Air Force Base, Thailand, March 1, 2024. F-16s assigned to the 80th Fighter Squadron operated alongside allies and partner nations in a scenario designed to test the interoperability of multinational assets and enhance the combined force's ability to respond rapidly and effectively to future crises. (U.S. Air Force photo by Senior Airman Karla Parra) ▲



Airman 1st Class Darren Ky, left, and Senior Airman Ashley Taylor, both **80th Fighter Generation** Squadron aircraft armament systems perform a gesture of squadron pride while transitting to conduct maintenance on an F-16 **Fighting Falcon during** Joint Exercise Cobra Gold 24 at Korat Royal Thai Air Force Base, Kingdom of Thailand, Feb. 29, 2024. The 43rd iteration of the exercise brought together service members from seven nations Feb. 26 - March 9, to enhance regional security by improving warfighting readiness and speed of response. (U.S. Air Force photo by Senior Airman Karla Parra) ◀



Senior Airman David Flowers, 80th Fighter Generation Squadron dedicated crew chief, marshals an F-16 Fighting Falcon during Joint Exercise Cobra Gold 24 at Korat Royal Thai Air Force Base, Kingdom of Thailand, March 1, 2024. Over the course of the two-week multinational exercise, 80th Fighter Squadron pilots flew 96 sorties and more than 160 flying hours over the skies of Thailand. (U.S. Air Force photo by Senior Airman Karla Parra) ▲

Capt. Bjorn Nielsen, 80th Fighter Squadron F-16 Fighting Falcon pilot, right, 80th Fighter Squadron F-16 Fighting Falcon pilot, reviews aircraft certifications beside Airman 1st Class Logan Diehm, 80th Fighter Generation Squadron dedicated crew chief, before take-off during Joint Exercise Cobra Gold 24 at Korat Royal Thai Air Force Base, Thailand, March 1, 2024. Cobra Gold is the largest joint exercise in mainland Asia and exemplifies the U.S.'s long-standing alliance with Thailand to ensure regional peace and security. (U.S. Air Force photo by Senior Airman Karla Parra) ▶



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Familiar Wolf Pack paint returns to Thailand

By Tech. Sgt. Emili Koonce 8th Fighter Wing Public Affairs

KORAT ROYAL THAI AIR FORCE BASE,

Thailand -- 8th Fighter Wing aircraft 89-2060, also known as "Wolf's jet," is painted in honor of U.S. Air Force legend, Brig. Gen. Robin Olds and the fighter aircraft he used to lead OPERATION BOLO from Royal Thai Air Base Ubon.

During the Vietnam War, the then Col. Robin "Wolf 1" Olds, 8th Tactical Fighter Wing commander, and the wing's tactics officer, Capt. John "JB" Stone, devised a masterful plan to lure and trap North Vietnamese MiG-21s by mimicking U.S. Air Force F-105 Thunderchief bombing formation tactics.

On Jan. 2, 1967, 8th TFS F-4 Phantoms entered North Vietnam from the west using the same route, altitude and formation an F-105 bomb strike would use. During the 12-minute air-to-air engagement 7 North Vietnamese MiG-21s, about half of their operational forces at the time, were shot down with no U.S. losses.

It was OPERATION BOLO that gave the Wolf Pack its name, as the mission required pilots to fully commit to navigating and operating their fighter aircraft like slower and more vulnerable



Senior Airman Jayven Nachampassak, 80th Fighter Generation Squadron dedicated crew chief, places a ladder on an F-16 Fighting Falcon to perform maintenance during Joint Exercise Cobra Gold 24 at Korat Royal Thai Air Force Base, Thailand, March 4, 2024. The 8th FW and its Fighter Squadrons have maintained participation in Cobra Gold throughout the exercises' 43-year history, demonstrating the commitment to ensuring a free and open Indo-Pacifc region. (U.S. Air Force photo by Senior Airman Karla Parra) ▲

Col. Matthew C. Gaetke, left, 8th Fighter Wing commander, conducts a preflight check with Airman 1st Class Logan Diehm, 80th Fighter Generation Squadron dedicated crew chief, before participating in the Joint Exercise Cobra Gold 24 at Korat Royal Thai Air Force Base, Thailand, 29 Feb. 2024. Aircraft 89-2060's tail flash is painted to pay homage to the 8th Tactical Fighter Wing and then Col. Robin Olds, who flew one of the most successful operations of the Vietnam War from Ubon Air Base in 1967. The 8th FW has maintained participation in Cobra Gold throughout the exercise's 43-year history, demonstrating the commitment to ensuring a free and open Indo-Pacifc region. (U.S. Air Force photo by Senior Airman Karla Parra) ▶

bombers; like wolves in sheep's clothing.

In 2024, the 8th Fighter Wing is not employing subterfuge to snarl enemy air forces but rather continuing a legacy of commitment to ensuring a free and open Indo-Pacific region.

8th Fighter Wing personnel and assets have participated in Cobra Gold, the largest joint exercise in mainland Asia, throughout its 43-year history.

This iteration, Col. Matthew "Wolf 64" Gaetke, 8th FW commander, joined the 8oth Fighter Squadron as they integrated with allies and partners from seven nations to focus on increasing the interoperability of the combined force.

The 8th's unbroken presence at Cobra Gold exemplifies the U.S.' long-standing alliance with the Kingdom of Thailand, and reflects a shared commitment to preserving regional peace, prosperity and security.



2024 DAF Art Contest opens for 2D, 3D artists



JOINT BASE SAN ANTONIO-LACKLAND, Texas (AFNS) -- The 2024 Department of the Air Force Art Contest opened March 1 and runs through April 20

Any authorized patrons of DAF morale, welfare and recreation programs and facilities – beginning at age six – can participate in the contest.

Following the success of last year's introduction of three-dimensional art, this year's contest, managed by the Air Force Services Center, again includes both 2D and 3D works of art.

"We're excited to have 3D art be a part of our annual art contest," said Abbie Pollard, AFSVC Community Programs team lead.

With 3D art, the contest now includes items such as hand-made sculptures, basket weaving, jewelry, pottery and quilting, as long as it's three dimensional.

For 2D art, artists can create submissions in oil, watercolor, acrylic, pastel, mixed media, gouache, egg tempera, pen and ink, charcoal, colored pencil, scratch board, markers, and metal point. Digital art isn't included in the contest.

Artists can submit one or two photos of their entry at https://forcesupport. awardsplatform.com no later than April 30 at 11:59 p.m. CDT.

"This is a great opportunity for our Air Force and Space Force families to showcase a talent that reflects the beauty of their creativity," said Naybu Fullman, AFSVC art contest program manager.

"Art increases social interaction, allows for open conversations and expressions of all types of topics, creating a bridge of understanding between diverse groups," Pollard said. "It opens a space for people to feel confident in sharing who they are and expressing their personality.

After the competition closes, a panel of judges will look for impact, creativity and technical expertise when deciding the winners in each of these categories: Adult novice and adult accomplished for those 18 and older at the time of entry. Adult novice category is for new or inexperienced artists while accomplished is for those with knowledge based on education, training, experience, or those who operate as professional artists. Youth categories, based on the age of the artist at the time of submission, are ages 6-8, preteens ages 9-12 and teens ages 13-17.

AFSVC will announce the top three winners in each category this summer.

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Inspiring Futures: A Celebration of Women in STEM



By Senior Airman Trevor Gordnier 51st Fighter Wing Public Affairs

OSAN AIR BASE, Republic of Korea -- Women Inspiring the Next Generation's Success held an International Women's Day panel in Osan Middle High School at Osan Air Base, Republic of Korea, March 8, 2024.

The panel aimed to inspire female students to pursue careers in STEM fields while also providing a platform for panelists to share their experiences as women in STEM. The panel featured U.S. Air Force WINGS members as well as NASA scientists currently working on the Airborne and Satellite Investigation of Asian Air Quality mission in the ROK.

"When I first did my first large-scale NASA airborne campaign in 2017, there were more men named Eric than women on that mission," said panelist Brenna Biggs, NASA Airborne Science Program science communications lead. "To be surrounded now in 2024 by such amazing women is just a pleasure, and to see such a change in just a few years is phenomenal."

In addition to answering questions, Biggs and fellow NASA team members engaged students by asking trivia questions on STEM and Women's History Month, offering them the opportunity to win prizes. WINGS members also shared insights into their experiences within the Air Force.

"I've been fortunate to be surrounded by a lot of amazing female leaders in the medical career field that helped guide me." said U.S. Air Force Capt. Mychelle Phan, 51st Medical Group physical therapist. "They've helped guide me not only just as a clinician, but as a leader, helping me guide Airmen and help them to accomplish their goals."

WINGS aims to host future events, emphasizing that success, especially for women in STEM fields, can be achieved anywhere and to inspire Osan Middle High and Osan Elementary students to pursue careers of their choice.



K. Emma Knowland, NASA associate research scientist, helps an Osan Elementary School student read a NASA trivia question during a Women's History Month panel at Osan Air Base, Republic of Korea, March 8, 2024. The trivia questions assessed students' proficiency in both STEM subjects and Women's History Month, offering them the opportunity to win NASA prizes. (U.S. Air Force photo by Senior Airman Trevor Gordnier)

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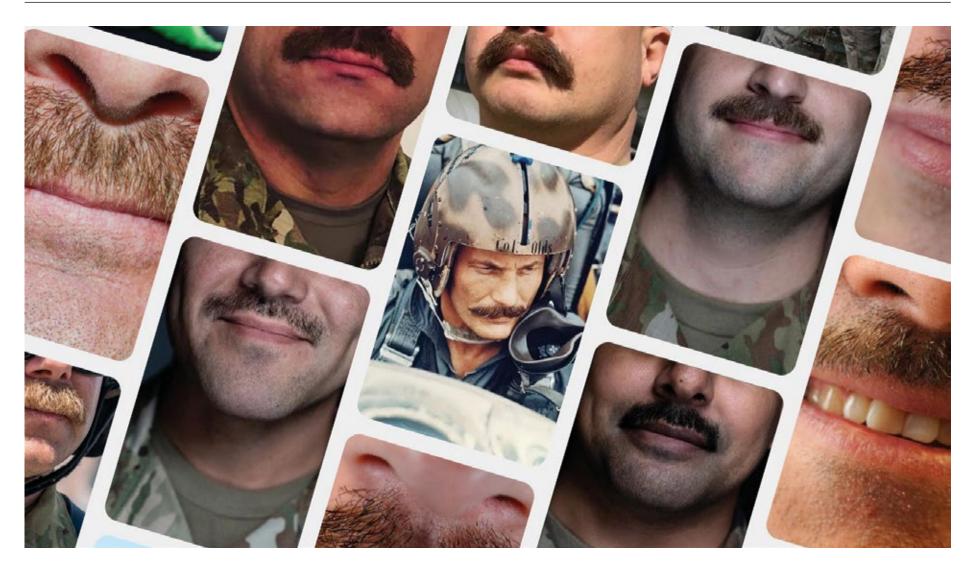
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By Master Sgt. Michael Charles 8th Fighter Wing Public Affairs

facial hair come to be?

recognized as Wolf 1.

Airman dorm leader.

Wolf Pack.

Surprisingly, it all started in the

Kunsan Air Base's 8th Fighter Wing,

has a storied legacy that stretches back for

its many members that have helped mold

individual stands above them all when it

comes to fashion trends in the U.S. Air

Force. That individual is Brig. Gen. Robin

Olds, then commander of the 8th Tactical

Fighter Wing and who would later become

"One of the cool things about

participating in Mustache March and

being assigned to the Wolf Pack is you

Scriven, 8th Civil Engineer Squadron

Old's military achievements are

know that you are participating at the unit

where it all started," said Staff Sgt. Marcus

commonly referred to as the Wolf Pack,

much of the Air Force's history. Among

the Air Force into what it is today, one

Wolf **Pack** bring in the season of the 'Mustache'

OSAN AIR BASE, Republic of Korea -present throughout the many combat For many, the start of Spring has become missions he successfully led the Wolfpack into during the Vietnam War. As a triplesynonymous with warmer weather, flowers blooming and rainstorms. ace fighter pilot he was feared for his However, in the Air Force one annual prowess as a fighter pilot. However, it event has eclipsed each of these things is through his signature facial hair that many have come to recognize his legacy to lift the spirits of many Airmen serving worldwide; "Mustache March." as a U.S. Air Force legend. Throughout March, Airmen of all "Everyone recognizes General career fields join in camaraderie to

Old's photo," said Master Sgt. Garrell attempt to grow mustaches that won't get Armstrong, 8 FW commanders action them laughed at and embodies the spirit group superintendent. "Whenever you of the annual tradition. But how did this grow your mustache out in the military it's annual trend of embarrassingly hideous one of the first pictures people show you, especially around this time of year."

Olds started the mustache in the wake of the success of Operation BOLO, a famous operation in Vietnam in which he led a squadron in to battle which saw to the aircraft in his command shoot down seven MiG-21s. The signature mustache that Olds sported throughout his command of the Wolfpack has since become a staple of Air Force recognition and has set fashion trends, for at least one month every year.

"It's truly a fun thing to participate in with a group of people," said Scriven. It brings out the best and, in some cases, the laughably hideous in some people. But at the end of the day, it's fun and really brings us closer together as units."

In recognition of the trend that Olds set for in terms of excellence and style, Airmen worldwide continue show solidarity throughout the month of March and sometimes beyond.

CANDLE SAFETY

andles may be pretty to look at but they are a cause of home fires - and home fire deaths. Remember, a candle is an open flame, which means that it can easily ignite anything that can burn.

According to National Fire Protection Association, Candles caused 4% of reported home fires, 3% of home fire deaths, 6% of home fire injuries, and 4% of the direct property damage in home fires.

U.S. fire departments responded to an annual estimated average 5,910 home structure fires started by candles. These fires cause an annual average of 74 civilian deaths and 558 civilian injuries, as well as \$257 million in property damage.

The rate of 94 injuries per 1,000 reported candle fires was nearly three times the rate for all home structure fire causes.

In 21% of home structure candle fires, the candle was either left unattended, discarded, or otherwise misused.



Safety Precautions

- 1. Use candle holders that are sturdy, and won't tip over easily.
- 2. Put candle holders on a sturdy, uncluttered surface.
- 3. Light candles carefully. Keep your hair and any loose clothing away
- 4. Don't burn a candle all the way down put it out before it gets too close to the holder or container.
- 5. Never use a candle if oxygen is used in the home.
- 6. Have flashlights and battery-powered lighting ready to use during a power outage. Never use candles.

Should you have any questions or concerns, feel free to contact Fire **Prevention Office at 784-4834/4741.**

Are You Saved?

Jesus Saves!

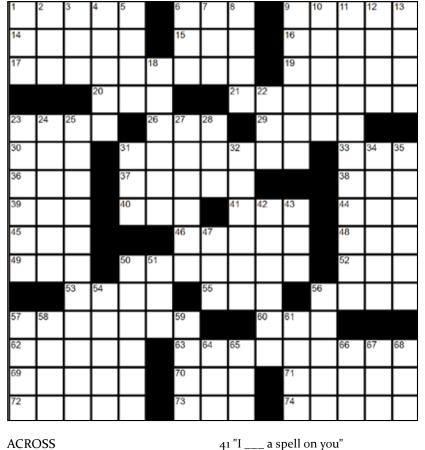
Romans 10:13 For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord, shall be saved. [See: Romans 3:10, 3:23, 5:12, 6:23, 5:8, 10:9-10, and pray & ask The Lord to save you.]

Haven Baptist Church

Just outside the Front Gate at Kunsan AB

– Preaching Christ 50+ years. www.hbcingunsan.com Redeem this AD for a FREE COFFEE at church! By Jon Dunbar

The Crossword



44 ____ Jima

48 Grass seed

special ops

45 Not the beginning

46 Works for a reward

49 President Moo-hyun

53 Follow the command

50 Alternative to taekwondo

55 AFSOC officer in charge of

56 Washington think tank

63 Ancient Korean martial art

70 Smartphone software

72 Got more comfortable

57 Drainage channels

62 Syrian president

73 NBC's founder

74 Sana'a's country

28 "Who ___ you?"

34 Pearl Harbor site

47 Soviet firearms

51 Opposite of nay

56 Bonnie's partner

59 General's ranker

64 Mii3 or BTRo60

65 Eco watchdog

66 Techno music

67 Grand ___ Opry

68 NASA's new Ground Network

57 Actress Blanchett

58 Workplace watchdog

50 Took advice

35 Does very emotionally

43 Chinese chicken general

31 Distress signal 32 ___ de corps

42 Decouple

54 Accuse

61 Approve

69 Motif

71 Mix up

52 US intelligence agency report

training and equipping ground

60 Brig. Gen. immediate subordinate

ACROSS

- 1 Precedes bravo, charlie
- 6 "Mad Men" channel
- 9 Banks or Grey
- 14 Commonly named dogs
- 15 Korean apartment brand 16 ___ and unusua punishment
- 17 Martial arts expert's accessory
- 19 Astronomical shadow
- 20 Soldiers' entertainment
- 21 Buries in a grave
- 23 Not his 26 Snowden's ex-workplace
- 29 Cosmonaut Gagarin
- 30 Abu Nidal's terrorist group 31 Korean wrestling sport
- 33 Not he
- 36 Thor and Luke Cage's world
- 37 Hall's musical partner
- 38 "Play it again, __
- 39 Empress Myeongseong
- 40 Said with a salute

DOWN

- 1 Osan or Kunsan
- 2 Kim or Wayne
- 3 Old-fashioned mobile device
- 4 ___-pocus 5 Questions
- 6 Wedge tool 7 "Firefly" main character
- 8 Reference
- 9 Roman shield
- 10 Knight's suit of ____ 11 Applications
- 12 Flavorful plant
- 13 "___ poor Yorick"
- 18 Japanese tree
- 22 Greenwich Village school
- 23 Gun part
- 24 Brendan Fraser 1992 movie
- 25 Semicircular kicks
- 27 Message to command center

ACROSS

1 AHAS 5 ADAM 9 RAEL 13 TANK 14 SOLOS 16 AIDE 17 TETE 18 AGENT 19 TROT 20 ACHES 22 LEGUMES

43 IMJIN 44 TSA 48 KPA 50 OCLOCK 51 EIGHONE 52 IPHONE 53 NATION 56 HELP 60 HTTP 61 OMAN 63 ICAP 64 EVS 65 MET 67 NEA

24 CHE 25 UAE 27 ONG 28 PSI 31 KIMJONG 34 SNAKE 36 AMG 37 NIT 39 ACID 40 DEMILITARIZED 44 TAXI 45 EMR 46 AMC 47 SLEEK

1 ATTACK 2 HAECHI 3 ANTHEM 4 SKEE 5 ASA

6 DOGLEG
7 ALEE
8 MONGOLIA
9 RATE
10 AIRSPACE
11 ED0
12 LET
15 STUN
21 SUOMI
23 MGS
26 ANGLE
29 SKID
30 IED
32 JAMIE
33 INTRO
35 NAZCA
38 TRANS
40 DALI
41 EXERCISE





arm welcome: Second Lt. Madison Marsh, crowned Miss America 2024, meets future Airmen just before they take the oath of enlistment at the Daytona International Speedway in Daytona Beach, Fla., Feb. 17, 2024. Ahead of the Daytona 500 NASCAR Cup Series race, Marsh spoke with students across the city about serving both in and out of uniform. (U.S. Air Force photo by Miriam Thurber)



ALO jump: U.S. Air Force members assigned to the 82nd Expeditionary Rescue Squadron conduct a tandem High Altitude, Low Opening jump from a U.S. Marine Corps KC-130J Hercules cargo aircraft over East Africa, Feb. 27, 2024. HALO jumps are performed from altitudes with limited oxygen, requiring members to employ specialized training beyond standard parachute insertions. (U.S. Air Force photo by Staff Sgt. Allison Payne) <

riendly formation: An Air
Force C-130 Hercules
flies over a group of
Navy SEALs, Norwegian
naval special operations
commandos and the attack
submarine USS Hampton
during exercise Arctic Edge
at an undisclosed location
in Alaska, March 9, 2024.
The exercise provides the
opportunity to test a range
of capabilities and response
options and bolster skills in
an Arctic environment. (U.S.
Navy photo by Chief Mass
Communication Specialist
Jeff Atherton)



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Kunsan

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

- 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

lodging rooms on a space available basis up to 120 days in advance for a maximum of 30 days depending on availfor the holiday season (November and 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 speno room to house them? You can book cific unit cook dinner for their fellow

Wolf Pack members at the Sonlight Inn. The dinner begins at 6 p.m. fol- Learn creative ways to assist newcomlowing grace led by a chaplain. Meals ability. You can also book reservations range from "breakfast for dinner" to "Italian cooking" to "Southern style." contact the chapel at 782-HOPE.

- 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.

- SPONSOR TRAINING -

March 22, 2024

ers reporting to Kunsan AB. Registration required. Class is held at the Airman and Family Readiness Center. Call December) up to 30 days in advance For more information or to volunteer, 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

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 members by appointment only. The health promotion coordinator is available to help you break this habit, through counseling, educational materials and health coaching. To make an appointment please use this link: https://www.signupgenius.com/ go/10C0949AFA92BA5FAC61-tobacco

InBody Assessments Every Monday, Wednesday and Friday

Building 1419, the Human Performance Center Health Promotions is running a new program, InBody assessments! An In-Body assessment is a biometric analysis of your weight, body composition, height and BMI that provides valuable insights into your health and wellness.

411th CSB Contracting Officer Representative (COR) Live Training

Has someone told you that you are going to be a COR and that you are going to need training? And your first question is what is a COR? It is a Contracting Officer Representative (COR)

and a COR gets appointed to oversee contractor's performance on behalf of one of our Contracting Officers here at Osan AB and if that is you then you will need COR training. Please reach out to 411th CSB, Mr. Jack Banks, Quality Assurance Specialist at 757-6008, email address jack.d.banks.civ@army.mil for prerequisites and in-person classroom training. The classroom training is the first Monday of each month here at Osan AB in Bldg. 600, Room 204 and is from 0800-1600.

Every Wednesday | 1730-1930 |

Mustang Center Dance Studio The Hispanic Osan Latino Association is providing the base community an opportunity for FREE salsa & bachata every Wednesday, 1730-1930 at the Mustang Center Dance Studio.

Pet Transportation Allowance Guidance

Effective Jan 1, 2024, military members can claim pet transportation expenses for reimbursement. Below are the types of pet expenses that can be claimed as reimbursable: CONUS: mandatory microchipping, boarding fees, hotel service charges, licensing fees, pet shipping fees (NTE \$550.00 per PCS, for one pet). OCONUS: all CONUS expenses listed above plus quarantine fees and testing titer levels for entry. Members are required to use gov't or gov't procured transportation (if available) or reimbursement for transoceanic transportation is not authorized (NTE \$2000 per PCS, for one pet). If you have any

1-800-733-2761 (anytime)

questions about this new travel entitlement, please contact the Osan Finance during customer service hours, M-F 0900-1400 or create a CSP inquiry: https://csp.cce.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 seeing POCs from **HOLA Free Salsa & Bachata Lessons** each group (MDG, MSG, MXG, OG) who will coordinate with volunteers for their assigned month. Requirement of at least E-5s. If interested or for more information, please email 51fw. whagh.1@us.af.mil

PCS Smooth Move Brief

Mar 26 | 1300L-1400L | Base Theater This briefing is open to members PCSing within the next 6 months and provides essential travel information for all service members and dependents. Topics covered include MPF, M&FRC, EFMP, Finance, SFS, TMO Passenger/ Property, and AMC travel.

LANPAC / TechNet Korea 2024

April 9-11 | 0900-1700 Daily | Bldg 125 & Bldg P-111, Camp Humphreys Join the AFCEA Osan Mustang Chapter, the Association of the United States Army, and leading industry partners such as SAIC, Extron, Cisco, Infoblox, Splunk, SupplyCore, Curtiss-Wright, and many more at LANPAC / TechNet Korea 2024. This pivotal event fosters

collaboration between private and government sectors, focusing on policy, strategic architecture, operations, and command and control capabilities critical to addressing global security challenges and thriving in a joint digital environment. For detailed daily schedules, registration information, and directions to the convention center, please review the event flier. POC(s): Kenneth Ring & Jacob Rogers, OsanAFCEA@gmail.com, C: 82.10.2687.1822 & C: 82.10.4301.2109

Information Technology and Cyber Security Tabletop "Meet and Greet"

April 11 | 1200-1800 | Enlisted Club Main Ballroom, Osan Air Base The AFCEA Osan Mustang Chapter, alongside premier industry partners including Modtech Solutions, WWT, Trusted Systems, Fornetix, Elastic. CACI/ID Technologies, Splunk, Clear-Shark, Steelgate, Futron, Palo Alto Networks, Ironbow Technologies, and many others, invites you to an exclusive Information Technology and Cyber Security Tabletop "Meet and Greet" Show. This event is a unique opportunity for military personnel at Osan Air Base to engage directly with leading industry experts. Attendance is FREE for all DoD CAC holders, no registration necessary! POC(s): Kenneth Ring & Jacob Rogers, OsanAFCEA@gmail.com, Cell: 010-

2687-1822 or 010-4301-2109

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)		

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	

WOULD YOU LIKE TO SELL YOUR USED **DUTY-FREE GOODS OR POV?** FGTO Will Be of Great Help to You! (FGTO: Foreign Goods Transaction Office) SOFA agreement, we are the only designated organization **PYEONGTAEK OFFICE** (Humphreys/Yongsan/K-16/Osan AB) by the Korean Customs. Foreign Goods COM: 031-655-4371/ Cp Humphreys Bldg. S375 LICENSED www.facebook.com/FgtoUsfk



Transaction

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DONGDUCHEON OFFICE (Area I)

DAEGU OFFICE (Area IV)

COM: 031-864-6685 / Cp Casey Bldg. S2032

COM: 053-471-7093 / Cp Henry Bldg. S1220



Outside of the Main Gate at Osan AB. Lots of Places to Eat and Shop for U.S. Troops.



March 22, 2024





AT SHINJANG SHOPPING MALL, **EVERYONE IS A HAPPY SHOPPER!**



A Logo Plate attached to each member shop of Songtan Chamber of Commerce

SONGTAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE Ha, Young Heui / President

010-5353-8311

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Songtan Chamber of Commerce



By Staff Sgt. Jovan Banks 8th Fighter Wing Public Affairs

KUNSAN AIR BASE, Republic of Korea

-- Staff Sgt. Mo Miller, 8th Civil Engineer Squadron Airman dorm leader, was selected as Kunsan Air Base's Pride of the Pack for the week of March 11-15th.

Miller was recently recognized for her work as the ADL for building 603, where she provided expert facility management of 384 rooms. She has inputted over 35 work tasks, in/out-processed 130 members, and conducted 73 health and wellness inspections this quarter. Her dedication to duty has bolstered the quality of life among her

"For this job, you have to care about people, that is the most important thing,"

Additionally, Miller was hand-selected to fill an E-6 section chief position for 40 days, where she assigned rooms to newly assigned personnel, processed requests, and tracked the occupancy rate across 38 housing units.

Her leadership footprint extends across the installation as a volunteer referee for the base intramural basketball season and a Unit Fitness Assessment Cell member. This is a small example of her commitment to excellence and showmanship as a noncommissioned Officer.

Congratulations and thank you for your dedication and drive in caring for the Airmen of the Wolf Pack.





▲ Staff Sgt. Mo Miller, 8th Civil Engineer

inspecting a dorm room at Kunsan Air Base,

Republic of Korea, Mar.

14, 2024. As an ADL, Miller assigns rooms to newly assigned

personnel, processes

requests, and tracks occupancy in housing

units. (U.S. Air Force

photo by Staff Sgt. Jovar

Squadron Airman dorm leader, marks a discrepancy while

◀ Staff Sgt. Mo Miller, 8th Civil Engineer Squadron Airman dorm leader, gives a dorm in-processing brief at Kunsan Air Base, Republic of Korea, Mar. 14, 2024. As an ADL, Miller assigns rooms to newly assigned personnel, processes requests, and tracks occupancy in housing units. (U.S. Air Force photo by Staff Sgt. Jovan Banks)









Songtan Chamber of Commerce



COUPON Songtan Chamber of Commerce



Spiritual Charge

CRIMSON SKY

Crimson Sky: Sustaining Authentic Longevity



MSgt Christopher A. Flavin BA-Organizational Management 7AF/HC Religious Affairs Senior Enlisted Leader

find myself reflecting on my 19 years of military service more than ever. Each new day a continuation of the journey that has defined my life and purpose. How did I stay authentic and able to have purposeful longevity even In the face of challenges and adversity? It is the spiritual charge within me that has

propelled me forward, sustaining my motivation and commitment to the mission and family, which this commitment is stronger than ever!

Let's start with Longevity, it is

not just about the number of years served but also about the enduring dedication to the values and principles that guide our actions. Over nearly two decades, I have learned that staying motivated requires more than just physical endurance; which is an obstacle itself, but demands a deep-rooted connection to something greater than oneself. My journey has been marked by moments of triumph and moments of despair, but through it all, one thing has remained constant: the PEOPLE. They are the heart and soul of the mission, the driving force behind every decision and action taken. They are my purpose. They should be your purpose.

I've been asked throughout my career, "How have you sustained this charge over the years?" My answer, I have cultivated a mindset centered on three things. (PRC) Purpose, resilience, and compassion. Purpose

gives meaning to our actions, reminding us of the importance of our service and the impact we have on the lives of others. Resilience allows us to weather the storms that inevitably come our way, emerging stronger and more determined than before. And compassion reminds us that, ultimately, it is our connection to one another that defines us.

As leader it's our responsibility to nurture and cultivate these values within our teams, ensuring that every individual feels valued, supported, and empowered to contribute their fullest. It is not enough to simply focus on the mission objectives; we must also prioritize the well-being and morale of those entrusted to our care. As I continue my service into the future, I carry with me the lessons learned, the importance of staying connected to our purpose, the resilience to persevere in the face of adversity, and the compassion to lift others up along the way.

Next, Authenticity. You must maintain authenticity amidst the demands of military service, it's a vital aspect of longevity and personal our adversaries of the future.

fulfillment. Throughout my journey, I have encountered individuals who, in their pursuit of success or conformity to the military culture, have risked losing sight of who they truly are. It's essential to remember that our identity is not solely defined by our rank or our uniform but by the values, beliefs, and experiences that shape us as individuals. As we navigate the complexities of military life, it is crucial to remain true to ourselves, honoring our unique perspectives and staying grounded. In the relentless pursuit of excellence, there may be pressure to conform to certain standards or expectations. However, it is important to resist the temptation to sacrifice for the sake of fitting in or advancing our careers. Staying true to ourselves enables us to maintain a sense of integrity and moral compass, guiding our actions and decisions even in the face of adversity. Stay true to who you are, forge genuine connections with teammates. It's contagious. This, to me, is our greatest advantage over

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

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

PAGAN Traditions
Fridays: Freedom Chapel Rm 110 / 1800-1900 Pagan Fellowship POC: CPT Ryan S. Robinson; ryan.s.robinson14.mil@mail.mil



(A77027) - Freedom Cnapel
1600-1700 Adoration (Saturdays)
1600-1700 Reconciliation/Contession (Saturdays)
1640 Rosary/Benediction (Saturdays) • 1730 Vigil Mass (Saturdays)
0900 Mass (Sundays) • 1730 Daily Mass (M-F)
POC: usanhcatholiccoordinator@amail.com

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





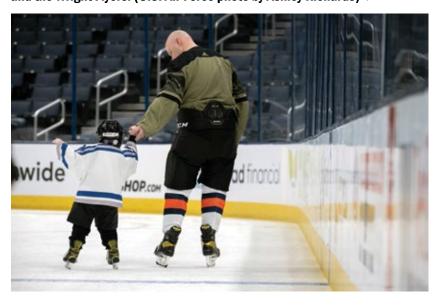




as and go: A U.S. Air Force B-52H Stratofortress assigned to the 5th Bomb Wing, Minot Air Force Base, N.D., departs after aerial refueling during a routine Bomber Task Force mission over the Pacific Ocean, March 3, 2024. BTF missions are designed to showcase the Pacific Air Forces' ability to deter, deny and dominate any influence or aggression from adversaries. (U.S. Air Force photo by Staff Sgt. Jessi Roth) ▲

obodog: An Asylon representative leads a robotic dog capabilities demonstration during the first Synchronized Nuclear Readiness Operations Training at MacDill Air Force Base, Fla., March 6, 2024. The demonstration showcased emerging technology in remotely operated security systems. The robotic dog allows for immediate response in emergency situations without endangering the life of defenders. (U.S. Air Force photo by Senior Airman Zachary Foster) ◀

Kating with dad: Maj. Alex Wyrick, Wright-Patterson Air Force Base Hockey Club member, and his daughter, Piper, hold hands while skating on the ice at Nationwide Arena in Columbus, Ohio, Feb. 29, 2024. As part of Military Appreciation Night, the Blue Jackets hosted Wright-Patterson AFB Hockey Club members and their families for a skate event prior to a friendly exhibition game between former Columbus players and the Wright Flyers. (U.S. Air Force photo by Ashley Richards) ▼



ool hopping: A U.S. Air Force Military Working Dog handler and his MWD participate in water familiarization training at an undisclosed location in the U.S. Central Command area of responsibility Feb. 26, 2024. MWD handlers and their working dogs work together to train on commands in all environments to ensure they are ready to respond anytime, anywhere. (U.S. Air Force courtesy photo) ◀

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Breaking Barriers: Celebrating Women's History

By Senior Airman Kaitlin Frazier 51st Fighter Wing Public Affairs

OSAN AIR BASE, Republic of Korea --

In 1948, the first woman joined the U.S. Air Force the moment female enlistment was authorized, inspiring generations of female service members. This year's Women's History Month theme celebrates "Women Who Advocate for Equity, Diversity and Inclusion."

U.S. Air Force Senior Airman Vanessa Okyere, 51st Comptroller Squadron financial accountant technician, is one of Osan's Airmen who continues to answer her nation's call in her every day actions.

Okyere grew up in Ghana, West Africa, and moved to the U.S. after graduating high school at 17 years old. After taking a few classes at her local community college, she knew she wanted to do something bigger than herself and decided to join the military.

"I always knew I was destined for something greater," said Okyere. "The Air Force was the best environment for me to grow and helped me become the person I've always wanted to be."

As an immigrant, she reflected on a period of loneliness and feeling like an outsider when she first moved to the U.S. Adjusting to a different time zone and becoming accustomed to new cultural norms was initially a struggle. While she missed her friends and the community she had back in Ghana, she felt right at home with her flight at basic military training.

"I really connected with the girls around me," she reminisced. "We laughed and talked to each other. I never felt out of place."

Serving as the president of the private organization, Women Inspiring the Next Generation's Success, Okyere partnered with the Osan Middle High School to host a panel focusing on women in STEM for International Women's Day.

"It's so important to have women in these spaces," said Okyere. "Women who have broken barriers and have gotten to the pinnacle of their careers serve as role models to the younger generation."

She smiled brightly as she spoke about the many women in her life who have inspired her over the years throughout her military career.

"These women make a space for me," said Okyere. "I'm so grateful for my community. They pray for me, they encourage me, they make me laugh. I'm so blessed to be able to share sisterhood and womanhood with all the women in my life."

Okyere passionately advocated for diversity in the military, emphasizing the invaluable contributions and values female Airmen bring to the forefront of military service.

"Women bring a different perspective and ideas to the table," she said. "We are a minority in the military, but we are also resilient."

When asked what advice she would give to women considering military service, Okyere replied without hesitation, "Do it."





U.S. Air Force Senior Airman Vanessa Okyere. 51st Comptroller Squadron financial accountant technician. poses for a photo at Osan Air Base, Republic of Korea, March 14, 2024. The finance office for the 51st Fighter Wing oversees the transactions and resource management of over 20 base organizations, keeping the base financially ready to deter any potential threats and continue mission operations. (U.S. Air Force photo by Senior Airman Kaitlin Frazier) ▲

U.S. Air Force Senior Airman Vanessa Okyere, 51st Comptroller Squadron financial accountant technician, poses for a photo with her sister at Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland, Texas, Aug. 2, 2019. As a financial accountant technician, Okyere is responsible for managing resources, monitoring budgets and reviewing audit reports to ensure Osan Air Base is able to sustain operations. (Courtesy photo) ◀

Wolf in Marine's clothing: Wolf Pack hosts USMC, ROK Marines combined training

By Staff Sgt. Jovan Banks 8th Fighter Wing Public Affairs

KUNSAN AIR BASE, Republic of Korea -- The 8th Fighter Wing hosted a combined force exercise involving the U.S. Marine Corps Marines assigned to the 8th Marines 2nd Battalion, Marine Heavy Helicopter Squadron 466, Marine Light Attack Helicopter Squadron 369 along with the Republic of Korea Marines as part of Warrior Shield 24 at Kunsan Air Base, Republic of Korea, Mar. 8, 2024.

Warrior Shield 24 is an annual joint, combined exercise held on the Korean Peninsula that seeks to strengthen the combined defensive capabilities of ROK and U.S. forces. This routine, regularly scheduled, field training exercise provides the ROK and U.S. Marines the opportunity to rehearse combined operations, exchange knowledge, and demonstrate the strength and capabilities of the ROK-US Alliance. 2nd Battalion, 8th Marine Regiment is forward deployed in the Indo-Pacific under 4th Marines, 3d Marine Division as part of the Unit Deployment Program.





A U.S. Marine with 2nd Battalion, 8th Marine Regiment, sits in position before a simulated building breach as part of a readiness exercise during Warrior Shield 24 at Kunsan Air Base, Republic of Korea, Mar. 8, 2024. This routine, regularly scheduled, field training exercise provides the ROK and U.S. Marines the opportunity to rehearse combined operations, exchange knowledge, and demonstrate the strength and capabilities of the ROK-US Alliance. 2nd Battalion, 8th Marine Regiment is forward deployed in the Indo-Pacific under 4th Marines, 3d Marine Division as part of the Unit Deployment Program. (U.S. Air Force photo by Staff Sgt. Jovan Banks)

U.S. Marines with 2nd Battalion, 8th Marine Regiment provide security during Warrior Shield 24 at Kunsan Air Base, Republic of Korea, Mar. 8, 2024. (U.S. Air Force photo by Staff Sgt. Jovan Banks) ◀

A U.S. Marine with 2nd Battalion, 8th Marine Regiment, moves to a secure area during a simulated breach as part of Warrior Shield 24 at Kunsan Air Base, Republic of Korea, Mar. 8, 2024. (U.S. Air Force photo by Staff Sgt. Jovan Banks) ▼





U.S. Marines with 2nd Battalion, 8th Marine Regiment wait for a CH-53E Super Stallion to land during Warrior Shield 24 at Kunsan Air Base, Republic of Korea, Mar. 8, 2024. Warrior Shield 24 is an annual joint, combined exercise held on the Korean Peninsula that seeks to strengthen the combined defensive capabilities of ROK and U.S. forces. (U.S. Air Force photo by Staff Sgt. Jovan Banks) ◀

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NEWS

35th Air Defense Artillery Master Sgt. Promotes to Sgt. Maj. During Women's History Month

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

OSAN AIR BASE, Republic of Korea -- On March 19th, the 35th Air Defense Artillery Brigade held a promotion ceremony at the brigade headquarters during Women's History Month for Master Sgt. Karen Denise Bryant for her promotion to the rank of Sgt. Maj.

The ceremony began with opening remarks from Capt. Leigh Almeida, brigade S1, followed by "the charge of the non-commissioned officer" from Sgt. Maj. Jomarixa Toro-Colon, representative from 8th Army, and the pinning of the rank from the brigade S₁ section.

Sgt. Maj. Bryant currently serves as the senior enlisted advisor in the S1 human resources section in the 35th Air Defense Artillery Brigade headquarters. She thanks her husband, of 25 years Ozell Bryant, for supporting her throughout her career, as well as her soldiers and the friends she has made along the way.

"One person I truly want to thank is my big brother, I lost him when I was 15 years old. He would take care of all 10 of us and would always tell us to reach for the stars and to never let anyone deter you" said Sgt. Maj. Bryant. Her hard work, dedication and encouraging words from her late brother helped her reach her star as a Sgt. Maj. and she dedicates that star to him.



Sgt. Maj. Byrant gets pinned by her brigade S1 section. ▲

Osan AB employs efficiency, streamlines **SUCCESS WITH FTEC**



U.S. Air Force Tech. Sgt. Royce Sims, 51st Force Support Squadron noncommissioned officer in charge of FTEC, performs a dress uniform inspections at Osan Air Base, Republic of Korea, March 5, 2024. The inspection took place during a First Term Enlisted Course, a professional training course tailored to instill a mission-centric mindset in firstterm Airmen following their technical training. Attention to detail when preparing uniforms reflects the discipline Airmen carry out when performing their daily duties in executing the 51st FW mission. (U.S. Air Force photo by Senior Airman Brittany Russell) ▲

By Senior Airman Brittany Russell 51st Fighter Wing Public Affairs

OSAN AIR BASE, Republic of Korea

-- The 51st Fighter Wing has introduced a three-day First Term Enlisted Course aimed at equipping U.S. Air Force Airmen and U.S. Space Force Guardians with essential training and resources to be successful at their first duty station of Osan Air Base, Republic of Korea.

FTEC was previously a week-long program titled, "First Term Airman Course." The change in name signifies that the program applies not only to Airmen, but Guardians as well. The condensing of the course provides Airmen and Guardians with the most critical information as they arrive at their first duty station, and gets them back to work at their units in an expedited and effective manner.

"On average, in-processing can take up to a month," said U.S. Air Force Tech. Sgt. Royce Sims, 51st Force Support Squadron noncommissioned officer in charge of

FTEC. "FTEC expedites the process of Airmen and Guardians getting back to their units and executing the 'Fight Tonight' mission."

The FTEC syllabus includes uniform inspections, a question and answer session with 51st FW leadership, eight hours of resiliency training, and a scavenger hunt that gets the Airmen and Guardians visiting important base resources.

"As a newcomer to the military, there's a lot of information that we have to process," said Airman 1st Class Tylor Chism, 51st Security Forces Squadron Defender. "FTEC has provided me with answers to questions that I might not have known to ask, or where to ask."

In its commitment to excellence, the 51st FW's implementation of the streamlined FTEC underscores its dedication to equipping Airmen and Guardians with the skills necessary for success in executing the mission.



Aviation allies: Osan hosts Buddy Squadron 24-2

By Senior Airman Kaitlin Frazier 51 Fighter Wing Public Affairs

OSAN AIR BASE, Republic of Korea

-- Pilots from the U.S. Air Force and Republic of Korea Air Force take to the sky, upholding a tradition of training together for over two decades during Buddy Squadron 24-2 at Osan Air Base, Republic of Korea, March 2-6, 2024.

ROKAF pilots assigned to the 122nd Fighter Squadron trained alongside the 36th FS assigned to Osan AB and 35th FS assigned to Kunsan AB, ROK, during the week-long training event. The units worked together in mission planning, flying operations and debriefing in order to operate seamlessly as a joint force in the sky and on the ground.

"Buddy Squadron is a great tool to help with integration," said U.S. Air Force Capt. Christopher Brown, 36th FS F-16 pilot, "We're able to practice now to integrate easier and more efficiently in the future."

During this iteration of BS 24-2, personnel trained on aerial refueling



Republic of Korea Air Force Capt. Kangsan Lee, 122nd Fighter Squadron operations officer, waves upon arrival during Buddy Squadron 24-2 at Osan Air Base, Republic of Korea, March 4, 2024. The personnel trained on aerial refueling techniques along with offensive counterair suppression of enemy air defense as well as offensive counterair interdiction. The Buddy Squadron Program fosters objective-based training and improves interoperability between the U.S. and ROKAF fighter squadrons. (U.S. Air Force photo by Senior Airman Kaitlin Frazier)

techniques along with offensive counterair air interdiction and suppression of enemy air defense. Air interdiction are air operations conducted to divert, disrupt, delay, or destroy any potential adversaries. Suppression of enemy air defense refers to air operations used to neutralize or weaken the air defense of systems operated by adversaries.

Twenty aircraft were involved in the training event to include the F-15K Slam Eagles, F-16 Fighting Falcons and the A-10 Thunderbolt II.

The Buddy Squadron Program allows for bilateral integration, giving more opportunity to train together and ensure lethality and readiness of U.S. and ROKAF pilots. The joint training builds a foundation of trust, strengthening a more resilient alliance.

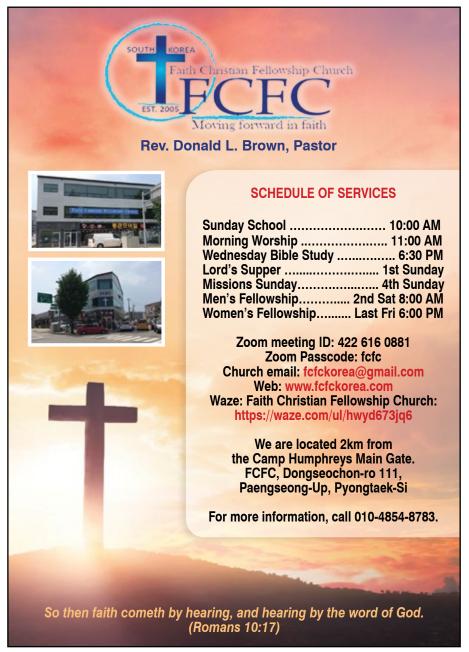
ROKAF air traffic control airmen also participated in BS 24-2, making it the first iteration of Buddy Squadron to include more personnel outside of air crew and maintenance members.

Other events during BS 24-2 included visits from the Joint Chief of Staff of the ROK Adm. Kim, Myung-Soo Kim and ROKAF Gen. Kang, Shin Chul, Combined Forces Command deputy commander.

"Buddy Squadron is a powerful weapon," said Capt. Jukyung Lee, 122nd FS pilot, "We're able to share knowledge and techniques that allows us to work together as a joint effort to protect South Korea."



U.S. Air Force Lt. Col. Farrer, 36th Fighter Squadron commander, presents a plaque to Republic of Korea Air Force Maj. Youngdo Park, 122nd FS vice commander, closing Buddy Squadron 24-2 at Osan Air Base Republic of Korea, March 8, 2024. ROKAF pilots assigned to the 122nd FS trained alongside the 36th FS assigned to Osan AB, and 35th FS assigned to Kunsan AB, ROK, during the week-long training event. The Buddy Squadron Program fosters objective-based training and improves interoperability between the U.S. and ROKAF fighter squadrons. (U.S. Air Force photo by Senior Airman Kaitlin Frazier) ▲





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Air Defense Artillery Headquarters Battery Gets New Command Team

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

OSAN AIR BASE, Republic of Korea -- - On February 23rd and March 1st, the 35th Air Defense Artillery Brigade, Headquarters Battery held a change of command and a change of responsibility ceremony at the Osan Officers and Enlisted Club.

During the two ceremonies, Capt. Samuel Richardson, the out-going commander, transferred authority to Capt. St. Joseph Hall, the incoming commander. 1st Sgt. Desmond Wiley, the out-going first sergeant, transferred responsibility to 1st. Sgt. Paul Gallo, the incoming first sergeant.

Both ceremonies began with a plaque presentation to both the out-going commander and first sergeant, followed by the playing of the national anthem. The invocation was given by Chaplain Maj. Jonathan Lee and Sgt. Christopher Snodgrass and after that began the passing of the guidon.

Col. Kevin P. Stonerook, commander of the 35th Air Defense Artillery Brigade gave encouraging words as Capt. Richardson and 1st. Sgt. Wiley departs the Praetorian Battery and moves on to their next assignment.



Outgoing Commander Capt. Samuel Richardson passes the 35th Air Defense Artillery Brigade, Headquarters and Headquarters Battery guidon to Col. Kevin P. Stonerook, commander of the 35th Air Defense Artillery Brigade, who then passes it to the incoming Commander, Capt. St. Joseph Hall. ▲



Outgoing first sergeant, 1st. Sgt. Desmond Wiley passes the 35th Air Defense Artillery Brigade, Headquarters and Headquarters Battery guidon to Capt. Samuel Richardson, commander of Headquarters and Headquarters Battery, who then passes it to the incoming first sergeant. 1st Sgt. Paull Gallo.

Outgoing first sergeant, 1st. Sgt. Desmond Wiley is presented a farewell plaque from Capt. Samuel Richardson, commander of Headquarters and Headquarters Battery, for his hard work and dedication to the Praetorian Battery.



