

Crimson Sky



Shirts from the Clothesline Project hang outside of the Base Exchange at Osan Air Base, Republic of Korea on April 06, 2018. The Clothesline Project is a visual display of shirts with messages and illustrations that were designed by victims of sexual assault or by someone who has lost a loved one due to violence. The purpose of the project is to increase awareness of the violence sexual assault creates and to celebrate the strength of those that survived. (U.S. Air Force photo by Airman 1st Class Ilyana A. Escalona)

Protecting Our People — — Protects Our Mission

**By Airman 1st Class Ilyana A. Escalona,
51st Fighter Wing Public Affairs**

Osan AIR BASE, Republic of Korea -- Sexual Assault Awareness and Prevention Month is recognized in April each year by the U.S. Air Force community. This year's theme for Osan is "Protecting Our People Protects Our Mission."

SAAPM is a time to educate military members and their families about sexual assault prevention and response, and how to focus on creating the appropriate culture to eliminate sexual assault.

The SAPR office hosted a kick-off breakfast, a 5k run and a mock trial to help bring awareness throughout the month.

"We all have a part in combating sexual assault and SAAPM offers an excellent opportunity to focus attention on our individual roles and educating others on the importance of the SAPR program," said Sandra Beecher, 51st Fighter Wing full time volunteer victim advocate.

SAPR services are available to active duty, Air Force Reserve and Air National Guard members in Title 10 status, active duty and overseas Department

of Defense civilian employees' dependents ages 18 and older, Numbered Air Force employees, and U.S. citizen DoD contractor personnel working overseas.

"SAPR awareness is extremely important, because if an individual is sexually assaulted, knowing that there is a resource out there to assist them can have a big impact on their life," said U.S. Air Force 1st Lt. Margaret Thomas, 51st Fighter Wing deputy sexual assault response coordinator.

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51st MSG Welcomes New Commander

By Airman 1st Class Ilyana Escalona, 51st Fighter Wing Public Affairs

Osan Air Base, Republic of Korea -- U.S. Air Force Col. Kevin Mantovani assumed command of the 51st Mission Support Group at Osan Air Base, Republic of Korea, on April 17, 2018.

Members of the 51st MSG and Team Osan greeted Mantovani at a ceremony held at the Osan AB Fire Department.

U.S. Air Force Col. William Betts, 51st Fighter Wing commander, was the presiding officer at the event and provided a few words to the newly appointed commander.

"Taking command of this group is an immense responsibility, and

I know Col. Kevin Mantovani is the right person for the job," said Betts. "His career boasts an impressive background in engineering, installation support and most importantly, leadership. He is tailor-made to conquer the readiness challenges here."

Montovani will now oversee the efforts of the 51st Force Support Squadron, 51st Security Forces Squadron, 51st Civil Engineer Squadron, 51st Logistics Readiness Squadron and 51st Communications Squadron.

"I believe in growing great leaders and Airmen, empowering them to do amazing things and getting out of their way," said Mantovani. "I believe we need to seek innovative solutions to hard problems and always

look for ways to deliver greater service to our Airmen and for the mission. I share Col Betts' vision for Osan Air Base to be "THE" base people fight to come to and hate to leave."

Prior to assuming command, Montovani was the 7th Air Force Engineering Division Chief, where he led a team that coordinated, planned and provided oversight of construction, real estate, environmental and chemical, biological, radiological, nuclear, and explosive materials programs across the Korean peninsula co-located at Osan AB. He said that this allowed him to lead and care for Osan Airmen, their families and provide support and defense to the combat power that protects 51 million people each day.



U.S. Air Force Col. William Betts, 51st Fighter Wing commander, passes the 51st Mission Support Group guidon to U.S. Air Force Col. Kevin Mantovani, 51st MSG commander at Osan Air Base, Republic of Korea, April 17, 2018. Mantovani, prior 7th Air Force Engineering Division Chief, assumed command of the 51st MSG. As the prior 7th Air Force Engineering Division Chief, Mantovani said that he has had time to support and become fully invested in the 51st Fighter Wing mission, the alliance and he understands what the wing needs to focus on right now. (U.S. Air Force photo by Airman 1st Class Ilyana A. Escalona)

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Commanding General/Publisher
Lt. Gen. Thomas W. Bergeson

Public Affairs Officer/Editor
Lt. Col. Michal Kloeffler-Howard

Editor/COR
Park, Do Young

51st Fighter Wing

Commander
Col. William D. Betts

Public Affairs Officer
Capt. Carrie Volpe

Staff Writers
Technical Sgt. Benjamin Wiseman
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Staff Sgt. Franklin Ramos
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8th Fighter Wing

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Oriental Press Chief Executive Officer
Charles Chong

Advertising Manager
Chris Vaia

Art Director
Eric Young-Seok Park

Commercial Advertising
Telephone: 738-2222 ext. 6815
E-mail: oriental_press@outlook.com
Address: PSC 450, Box 758, APO AP 96206-0758
Location: Dragon Hill Lodge, Bldg. 4050-B

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7afpa@us.af.mil

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An F-35 from Edwards AFB flies over the California coastline.
(Courtesy photo by Chad Bellay/Lockheed Martin)



F-35 completes most comprehensive flight test program in aviation history

By F-35 Joint Program Office Public Affairs

EDWARDS AIR FORCE BASE, Calif. (AFNS) -- The F-35 program has accomplished the final developmental test flight of the System Development and Demonstration phase of the program.

The F-35 Integrated Test Force is based at Edwards Air Force Base, California, and Naval Air Station Patuxent River, Maryland,

“Completing F-35 SDD flight test is the culmination of years of hard work and dedication from the joint government and industry team,” said Vice Adm. Mat Winter, F-35 Program executive officer. “Since the first flight of AA-1 in 2006, the developmental flight test program has operated for more than 11 years mishap-free, conducting more than 9,200 sorties, accumulating over 17,000 flight hours, and executing more than 65,000 test points to verify the design, durability, software, sensors, weapons capability and performance for all three F-35 variants. Congratulations to our

F-35 test team and the broader F-35 enterprise for delivering this new powerful and decisive capability to the warfighter.”

The final SDD flight occurred April 11, 2018 at Naval Air Station Patuxent River, Maryland, when Navy test aircraft CF-2 completed a mission to collect loads data while carrying external 2,000-pound GBU-31 Joint Direct Attack Munitions and AIM-9X Sidewinder heat-seeking missiles.

From flight sciences to mission systems testing, the critical work completed by F-35 test teams cleared the way for the Block 3F capability to be delivered to the operational warfighter. More than a thousand SDD flight test engineers, maintainers, pilots and support personnel took the three variants of the F-35 to their full flight envelope to test aircraft performance and flying qualities. The test team conducted 6 at-sea detachments and performed more than 1,500 vertical landing tests on the F-35B variant. The developmental flight

test team completed 183 Weapon Separation Tests; 46 Weapons Delivery Accuracy tests; 33 Mission Effectiveness tests, which included numerous multi-ship missions of up to eight F-35s against advanced threats.

“The F-35 flight test program represents the most comprehensive, rigorous and the safest developmental flight test program in aviation history,” said Greg Ulmer, Lockheed Martin’s vice president and general manager of the F-35 program. “The joint government and industry team demonstrated exceptional collaboration and expertise, and the results have given the men and women who fly the F-35 great confidence in its transformational capability.”

Developmental flight test is a key component of the F-35 program’s SDD phase, which will formally be completed following an Operational Test and Evaluation and a Defense Department decision to go into full-rate aircraft

production.

While SDD required flight test is now complete, F-35 flight testing continues in support of phased capability improvements and modernization of the F-35 air system. This effort is part of the Joint Program Office’s Continuous Capability Development and Delivery framework, which will provide timely, affordable incremental warfighting capability improvements to maintain joint air dominance against evolving threats to the U. S. and its allies.

With stealth technology, advanced sensors, weapons capacity and range, the F-35 is the most lethal, survivable and connected fighter aircraft ever built. More than a fighter jet, the F-35’s ability to collect, analyze and share data is a powerful force multiplier that enhances all airborne, surface and ground-based assets in the battlespace and enables men and women in uniform to execute their mission and return home safe.



Senior Airman Aquan Hopkins, 387th Expeditionary Security Forces Squadron entry controller, stands guard at Abdullah Al-Mubarak Air Base, Kuwait, April 2, 2018. Over the past few months, the 387th Expeditionary Security Forces Squadron has taken great strides to increase joint security operations through host nation cooperation. (U.S. Air Force photo by Staff Sgt. William Banton)

387th ESFS: Strengthening international bonds through security training

By Staff Sgt. William Banton, 386th Air Expeditionary Wing Public Affairs

KUWAIT (AFNS) -- Over the past few months, the 387th Expeditionary Security Forces Squadron has increased joint security operations through host nation cooperation at Abdullah Al-Mubarak Air Base, where a large-scale, temporary cargo facility is currently under construction.

U.S. forces are working with their Kuwaiti counterparts to move aerial port operations to Cargo City, a previously undeveloped area adjacent to an available ramp at the Kuwait International Airport.

Since both the Kuwait Air Force and U.S. military coalition are temporarily located there until the new West Al-Mubarak Air Base is complete, it provides a strategic opportunity to work closer with host nation counterparts while implementing essential changes to security operations and procedures.

Lt. Col. Vanessa Schoon, 387th ESFS commander, said the new construction provides an opportunity to review and implement these measures, which meet both coalition forces' and host nation's needs, strengthening a mutually functional and cooperative relationship.

"I think the hardest thing we take for granted is that (our counterparts) stay here and we rotate every six months, so the amount of effort they put and trust in us has to be rebuilt every six months," Schoon said. "As long as we tell our defenders that are coming in behind us, 'listen, this is a relationship we are in together. Keeping everybody

safe...That's what the goal should be."

The aerial port at Cargo City is the largest strategic logistics point for passengers and cargo in the U.S. Central Command area of responsibility, which requires more cooperative integration with the host nation security force.

"Progression is based off of what we are able to do; just like we have our manning capabilities and restrictions, they're in the same boat," said Master Sgt. Benjamin Hathaway, 387th ESFS training noncommissioned officer in charge and operations (NCO). "We know when we go to Cargo City that we are going to be doing joint operations. In preparation for that, we shouldn't just one day pick up and work together, we need to build up to that and have an understanding of how everything is going to operate. That's why we are trying to do these things in methodical manner."

The 387th ESFS participated in joint exercises with their counterparts leading up to move to Cargo City. Future plans include having host nation counterparts work entry control points, do vehicle searches and security patrols in cooperation, and in many cases side-by-side with Airmen.

"The training has been progressively on going since 2016, however it has been fairly recently that we have been working together at the gates," said Maj. Mahammad Boresli, a security officer with the host nation forces. "For me the knowledge and experience has been good for my team. I love being able to exercise with our two nations and gain the expertise needed."

The first thing U.S. leadership looked at was

how to train the host nation to our standards of vehicle searching.

"The mentality they had going into it was what do the Americans do and why do they do it this way," Hathaway said. "We see how they run their operations and they have a different mindset than us. We are really trying to envelope them into what our mindset is and why it is our mindset."

Schoon said part of this envelopment is getting both Airmen and the host nation military to become comfortable sharing information with each other so they can work effectively together.

"We sent out one of our interpreters to an entry control point where both U.S. and host nation Airmen hang out a lot together, to get them out there talking and having tea," Schoon said. "Every time I go through the gate I ask my Airmen, 'have you talked to your friend today?' I'm telling them to go talk to them. That's the direction I give them every morning and every night when I leave through the gate."

Hathaway agreed and said he pointed out to his counterparts that they are one family.

"We are all brothers and sisters here, all with the same goal and same mindset," he said. "When you say that, every one of them can see it on their face. It's about maintaining peace and looking out for each other cause at the end of the day I don't care who you are. Kuwaiti, Italian, Canadian or American, it doesn't matter, we are all on the planet together surviving and looking to survive and wanting to live. What I told them is, we want to live so being brothers and sisters is the best way to do that."



Guests attend the Sexual Assault Prevention and Awareness Month kick off breakfast at Osan Air Base, Republic of Korea on April 10, 2018. SAAPM is a time to educate military members and their families about sexual assault prevention and response and how to focus on creating the appropriate culture to eliminate sexual assaults. (U.S. Air Force photo by Airman 1st Class Ilyana A. Escalona)

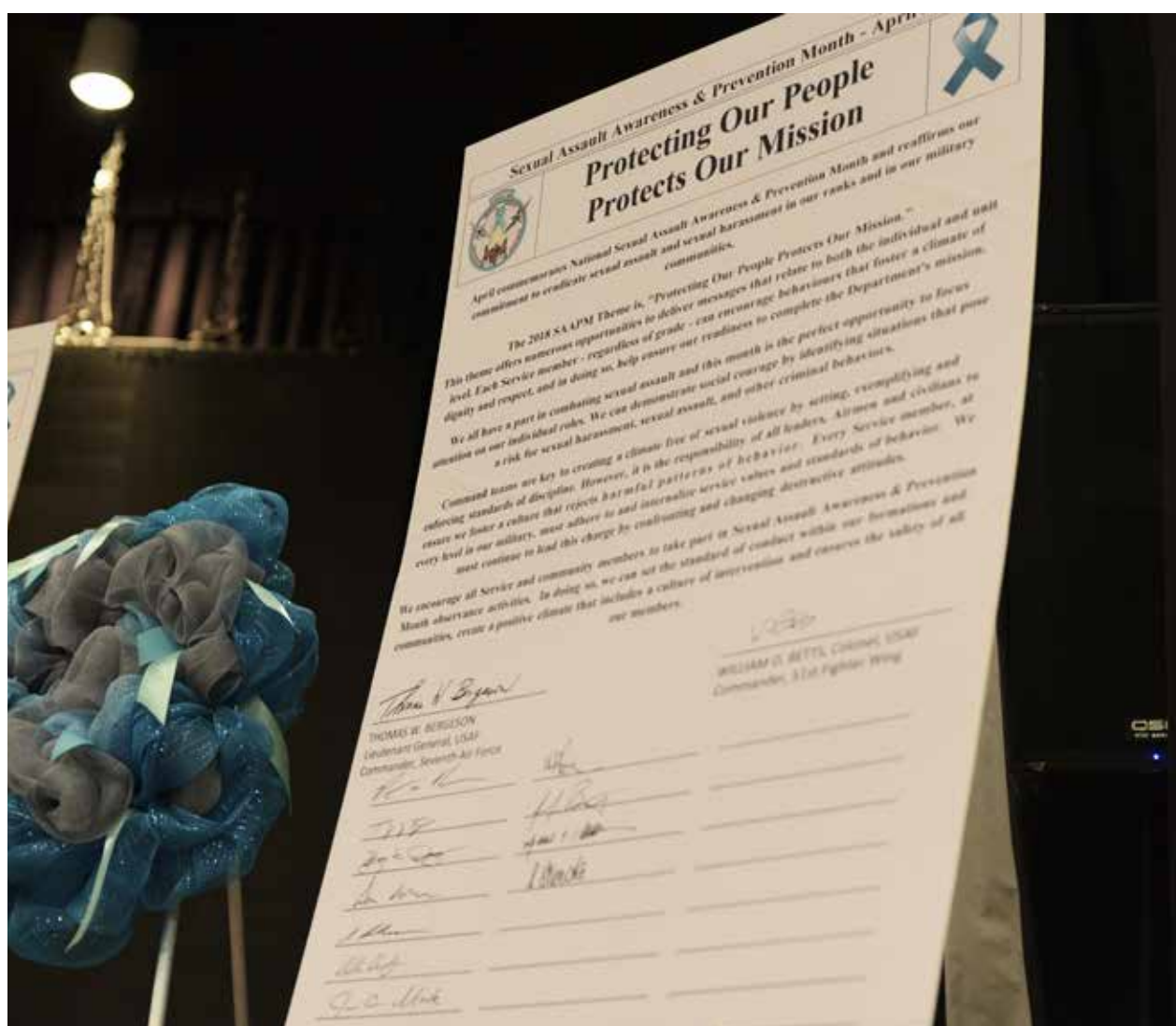
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One resource available to those assaulted are volunteer victim advocates. Victim advocates are active-duty military members certified by the DoD Sexual Assault Advocate Certification Program. They are selected by the installation's sexual assault response coordinator to provide essential support, liaison services and care to victims.

"Our volunteer victim advocates are a huge resource for the SAPR program," said Beecher. "If Airmen are interested in assisting the program, becoming a credentialed victim advocate is a great step in becoming involved in the SAPR program."

The SAPR 24/7 hotline, manned by credentialed victim advocates, can be reached at 0505-784-7272

A photo of the Sexual Assault Awareness and Prevention Month proclamation signed by U.S. Air Force Lt. Gen. Thomas Bergeson, 7th Air Force commander, and U.S. Air Force Col. William Betts, 51st Fighter Wing commander, at Osan Air Base, Republic of Korea on April 10, 2018. SAAPM is a time to educate military members and their families about sexual assault prevention and response, and how to focus on creating the appropriate culture to eliminate sexual assaults. (U.S. Air Force photo by Airman 1st Class Ilyana A. Escalona)





A C-17 Globemaster III, sits on the flightline at Joint Base Charleston, S.C., as it is prepared for transfer to the Charlotte Air National Guard, N.C., April 4, 2018. The Charlotte Air National Guard Base will receive four jets from Charleston and four jets from Joint Base Lewis-McChord, Wa. (U.S. Air Force photo by Senior Airman Christian Sullivan)

JB Charleston trains ANG to be globemasters

By Staff Sgt. William O'Brien, Joint Base Charleston Public Affairs

KIRUNA, SWEDEN (AFNS) -- JOINT BASE CHARLESTON, S.C. (AFNS) -- The first of four C-17 Globemaster IIIs was transferred from Joint Base Charleston to the Charlotte, North Carolina, Air National Guard, April 7, 2018, as part of a congressional mandate.

Through this directive JB Charleston will send 16 C-17s to four Air National Guard bases.

"Between Joint Base Charleston and Joint Base Lewis-McChord, we have been transferring airplanes to West Virginia, Tennessee, New York and now Charlotte," said Norman Moore, 437th Maintenance Group deputy director. "Congress mandated the Air Force transfer aircraft to those locations to help replace their fleets with C-17s. We will additionally be sending four C-17s to Pittsburg ARS next fiscal year."

The transfer marks a transition for the Charlotte ANG from flying the C-130 Hercules to the C-17. The new airframe expands their mission sets such as aeromedical evacuation and airdrop capabilities.



Tech. Sgt. Shannon Garris, 145th Air Wing quality assurance inspector, examines a C-17 Globemaster III prior to transferring to the Charlotte Air National Guard, N.C., at Joint Base Charleston, S.C., April 4, 2018. The first of four C-17 Globemaster IIIs was transferred from JB Charleston to the Charlotte Air National Guard, N.C. April 7, 2018, as part of a congressional mandate. JB Charleston and JB Lewis-McChord have transferred airplanes to West Virginia, Tennessee, New York and now Charlotte. (U.S. Air Force photo by Senior Airman Christian Sullivan)

“We came down to (JB) Charleston to do conversion training, look over the aircraft and get a good idea of the situation and the condition of the aircraft,” said Master Sgt. Larry Boles, 145th Air Wing aircraft mechanic. “They provided us a really good overview of the aircraft and some great insight we haven’t gotten before. They gave a lot of real helpful information. It’s going to definitely increase our capabilities. It’s a whole new mission with different load capabilities.”

JB Charleston is home to the 373rd Training Squadron Detachment 5, which is responsible for C-17 Globemaster III initial skills crew chief training (Type 3), advanced skills technical training (Type 4), and international training, the only Air Force C-17 Trainer Development Team for crew chiefs. Through training courses with the 373rd TRS and hands-on experiences with maintainers assigned here, Charlotte ANG Airmen learned the ins and outs of their new planes before the transfer took place.

“They come here for training classes to learn the tech data on this new air frame,” said Senior Master Sgt. Phillip Wiley, 437th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron lead production superintendent. “We make sure the experience and knowledge of someone who’s been working on the C-17 for 15 years is passed on to them for use at their home station.”

Wiley provides a unique perspective to the Charlotte ANG maintainers as they prepare to replace a fleet of C-130s with C-17s because he has been a maintainer for both aircraft.

“Some of it’s the same, some of it is different,” Wiley said. “Systems progress and evolve to get better with newer jets.”

Members from both maintenance teams reviewed every aspect of the jet together to ensure JB Charleston had everything functioning properly before the transfer became official.

“We look at the aircraft pretty extensively,” Moore said. “We look at the outside appearance, we do a home station check inspection and look at all the delayed discrepancies. We do the best we can to give them a really good airplane.”

As the installation with the largest C-17 fleet, Moore said JB Charleston is always happy to work any trouble shooting issue any base may have and welcomes calls from Charlotte ANG Airmen.

“We have a partnership with all the C-17 bases,” Moore said. “We have the most experience and a phenomenal maintenance team here. Anything they need, we’ll be glad to help them out.”

Boles was grateful for the hospitality and insight shown to him and his team as they began their transition to the C-17. He hopes the partnership continues and the two geographically-close bases can work together to provide rapid global mobility.

“New aircraft like the C-17 with its capabilities will strengthen our mission and make us even more of an asset to the military,” Boles said. “The team here was outstanding. It was even more than we were expecting. They made everything seamless and enjoyed sharing their knowledge.”



Senior Airman Ethan Fite, left, and Airman 1st Class Jerry Marin, 437th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron crew chiefs, log parts during an aircraft inspection at Joint Base Charleston, S.C., April 4, 2018. The 437th AMXS, along with maintainers from the 145th Air Wing assigned to the Charlotte Air National Guard, N.C., prepared a C-17 Globemaster III to be transferred to the Charlotte ANG. (U.S. Air Force photo by Senior Airman Christian Sullivan)

Air Force launches new application tool for Airmen athletes

By Angelina Casarez, AFIMSC Public Affairs

JOINT BASE SAN ANTONIO-LACKLAND, Texas – Air Force Sports, managed by the Air Force Services Activity, recently launched an online application system to make it easier for Airmen athletes to apply for Air Force sports teams.

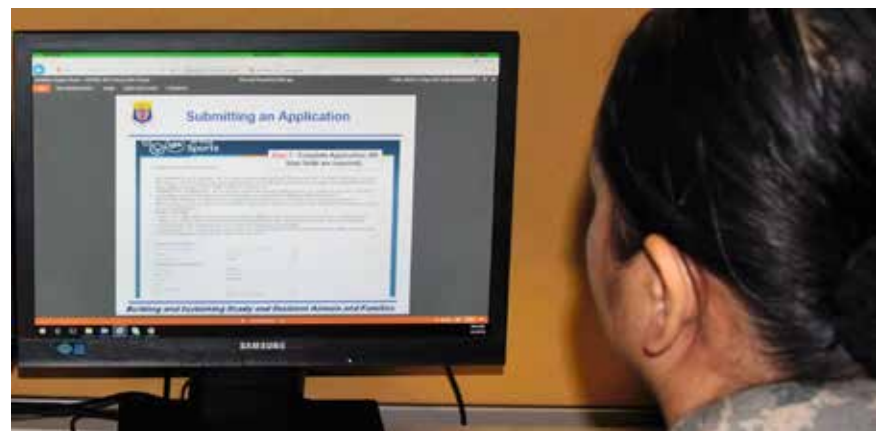
APPTRAC, an online application system that automatically tracks an athlete’s application, replaces the Air Force Form 303, Request for USAF Specialized Sports Training, said Tech. Sgt. Giselle Stone, NCO in charge of Air Force Sports.

“The tool streamlines the application process, improves status visibility and enhances

applications as they come in.

Coaches and trainers also submit applications through APPTRAC. Once selected as a coach, that person is granted access to review applications from athlete candidates. The coach determines an athlete’s qualifications based on his or her level of competitions, results and experience in the sport. The coach submits his or her recommendations to Air Force Sports for consideration.

Those selected to join the Air Force Sports program receive an APPTRAC message providing details concerning requirements



communication to leadership. It’s efficient and centralizes all applications submitted in one location,” said Stone.

Athletes, supervisors and unit commanders must create accounts to submit, approve or reject applications.

The process is simple: an athlete submits an application which is then automatically sent to both the supervisor and unit commander for approval or disapproval. After input at the leadership level, athletes receive notifications to let them know the results of their application.

“If an athlete sees the application is still pending at the supervisor or unit commander level, they can take steps to find out why it hasn’t been approved or disapproved,” said Stone.

Once a package is approved and complete, the system pushes it to the Air Force Sports section in AFSVA’s Operations Directorate for review. Action officers are assigned as primary contacts for each sport and monitor

for upcoming permissive temporary duty stations. They’ll also receive an email from their new coach.

The APPTRAC system also generates a message to non-selectees. Those individuals may contact the Air Force Sports office for recommendations on the skills they need to improve for the following year. Air Force Sports coordinates with coaches to provide feedback to the athlete.

The U.S. Army began using the tool six years ago and it was recently expanded to include all branches of service through a **grant offered** by the Department of Defense.

“Our main focus is taking care of our customers, in this case it’s the athletes, supervisors and commanders,” said Maj. Austin Pruneda, AFSVA chief of fitness, readiness and reserve affairs. “As we navigate the new system and climb the learning curve, we are ready to make adjustments to make the process even more user-friendly.”

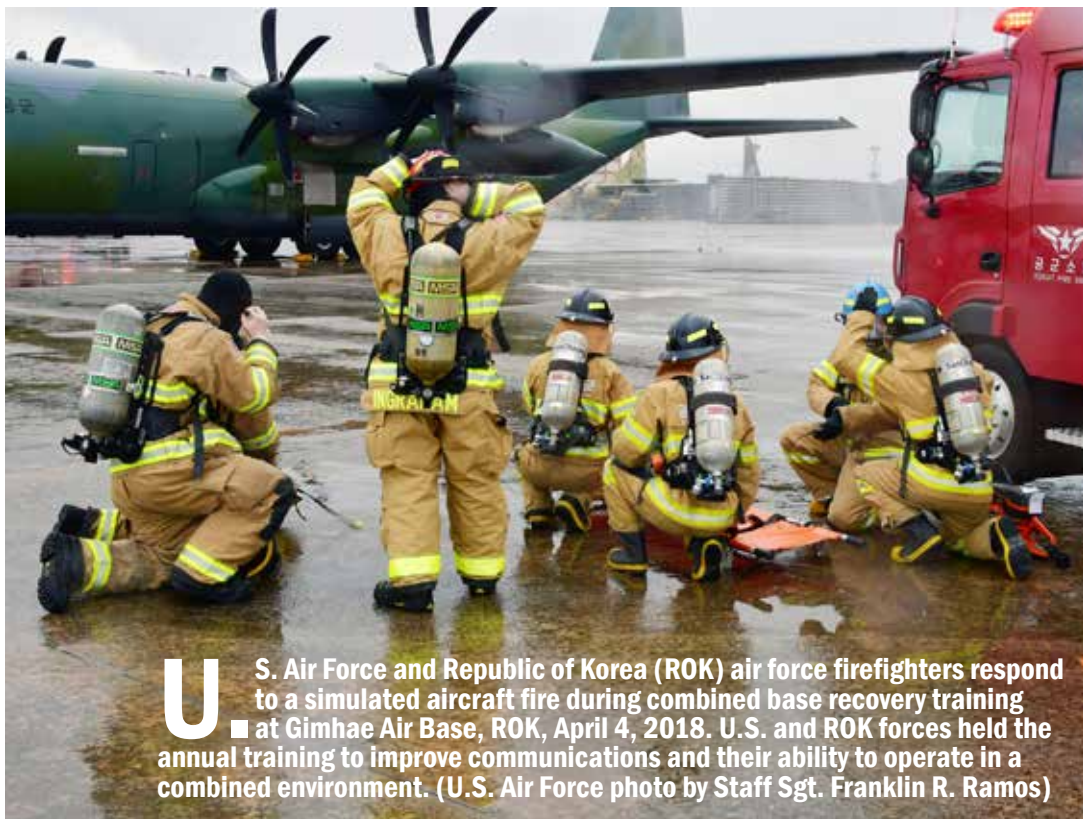
USAF and ROKAF conduct annual base recovery training



US. Air Force Master Sgt. Harold Horton, 354th Civil Engineer Squadron explosive ordnance disposal (EOD) flight chief, Eielson Air Force Base, and Republic of Korea (ROK) air force Warrant Officer Cho, Sung Il, 5th Air Mobility Wing EOD team member, brief their members during combined base recovery training at Gimhae Air Base, ROK, April 5, 2018. U.S. and ROK forces held the annual training to improve communications and their ability to operate in a combined environment. The EOD team examined an airfield for simulated explosives and conducted a render safe procedure to remove a simulated bomb. (U.S. Air Force photo by Staff Sgt. Franklin R. Ramos)



US. Air Force Tech. Sgt. Donovan Fredericksen, 354th Civil Engineer Squadron explosive ordnance disposal (EOD) team member, Eielson Air Force Base, and Republic of Korea (ROK) air force Chief Master Sgt. Koo, Ja Choon, 5th Air Mobility Wing EOD team member, examine a simulated unexploded ordnance during a combined base recovery training at Gimhae Air Base, ROK, April 5, 2018. U.S. and ROK forces held the annual training to improve communications and their ability to operate in a combined environment. The EOD team examined an airfield for simulated explosives and conducted a render safe procedure to remove a simulated bomb. (U.S. Air Force photo by Staff Sgt. Franklin R. Ramos)



US. Air Force and Republic of Korea (ROK) air force firefighters respond to a simulated aircraft fire during combined base recovery training at Gimhae Air Base, ROK, April 4, 2018. U.S. and ROK forces held the annual training to improve communications and their ability to operate in a combined environment. (U.S. Air Force photo by Staff Sgt. Franklin R. Ramos)

Republic of Korea (ROK) air force members mark an area for cutting during combined base recovery training at Gimhae Air Base, ROK, April. 5, 2018. U.S. and ROK forces held the annual training to improve communications and their ability to operate in a combined environment. The RoK Air Force members marked around a simulated damaged piece of airfield that need to be cut and repaired. (U.S. Air Force photo by Staff Sgt. Franklin R. Ramos) ▼



U.S., Korean fire-fighters conduct joint fire training

US. and Republic of Korea Air Force firefighters work together to put out a fire during a training exercise on Osan Air Base, Republic of Korea, March 26, 2018. The exercise allowed the U.S. and ROKAF firefighters to practice communications and improve their ability to work together under stress. (U.S. Air Force photo by Staff Sgt. Benjamin Raughton) ►

Firefighters from the 51st Civil Engineer Squadron assist each other in donning their protective equipment at Osan Air Base, Republic of Korea, March 26, 2018. U.S. and Republic of Korea Air Force firefighters worked together in a live fire training exercise to improve communications and their ability to work together under stress. (U.S. Air Force photo by Staff Sgt. Benjamin Raughton) ▼



A Republic of Korea Air Force firefighter prepares for a live fire training exercise on Osan Air Base, Republic of Korea, March 26, 2018. Korean and U.S. Air Force firefighters worked together in the exercise to improve communications and their ability to work together under stress. (U.S. Air Force photo by Staff Sgt. Benjamin Raughton) ▲



An E-3 Sentry departs after receiving fuel from a 340th Expeditionary Air Refueling Squadron KC-135 Stratotanker during a refueling mission over Syria April 3, 2018. The 340th EARS supports various operations in countries such as Iraq, Syria and Afghanistan. (U.S. Air Force photo by Tech. Sgt. Paul Labbe) ▲



Airmen from Vandenberg Air Force Base, Calif., supported the successful launch of the fifth Iridium mission on a SpaceX Falcon 9 rocket from Space Launch Complex-4 at Vandenberg AFB, March 30, 2018. (U.S. Air Force photo by Joe Davila) ►



Airmen jump from an HC-130J Combat King II during static-line jump proficiency training at Moody Air Force Base, Ga., March 30, 2018. The Airmen are assigned to the 820th Base Defense Group. (U.S. Air Force photo by Staff Sgt. Ryan Callaghan)gt. Emerson Nuñez)

A U.S. Air Force B-52H Stratofortress, assigned to the 20th Expeditionary Bomb Squadron, deployed from Barksdale Air Force Base, La., approaches the flightline at Royal Australian Air Force Base Darwin, Australia, April 6, 2018. Two U.S. Air Force bombers visited the base in Australia's Northern Territory to support the U.S. Pacific Command's Enhanced Air Cooperation initiative in cooperation with RAAF joint terminal attack controller teams. The EAC comprises a range of air exercises and training activities designed to enhance regional cooperation, coordination and interoperability between Australian and U.S. service members. (U.S. Air Force photo by Staff Sgt. Alexander W. Riedel) ▶



Airmen watch themselves perform a rifle volley in the mirror during an honor guard training session April 2, 2018, at Eglin Air Force Base, Fla. The Air Force Honor Guard mobile training team visited the base to provide a 10-day standardized training course to 31 local honor guard Airmen. The goal is to ensure all honor guard units perform the required ceremonial procedures the same way throughout the Air Force. (U.S. Air Force photo by Samuel King Jr.) ◀

Maj. Paul Lopez, Air Combat Command F-22 Raptor Demonstration Team commander and pilot, flies a demonstration at an air show in Santiago, Chile, April 4, 2018. Along with the demo team, members of the F-35 Lightning II attended FIDAE as a static display. (U.S. Air Force photo by Senior Airman Kaylee Dubois) ▼



US. Air Force B-52H Stratofortress, assigned to the 20th Expeditionary Bomb Squadron, deployed from Barksdale Air Force Base, La., approaches the flightline at Royal Australian Air Force Base Darwin, Australia, April 6, 2018. Two U.S. Air Force bombers visited the base in Australia's Northern Territory to support the U.S. Pacific Command's Enhanced Air Cooperation initiative in cooperation with RAAF joint terminal attack controller teams. The EAC comprises a range of air exercises and training activities designed to enhance regional cooperation, coordination and interoperability between Australian and U.S. service members. (U.S. Air Force photo by Staff Sgt. Alexander W. Riedel) ◀

• BULLETIN •

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VOLUNTEERS OPPORTUNITY

Osan City's English Program for Middle School Students

As part of the Good Neighbor Program, 7 AF Public Affairs has been supporting the conversational English program organized by the Osan City Mayor for middle school children in Osan city. The program is in need of American volunteers who will assist and teach conversational English to the students for the first semester of 2018.

The program occurs every Thursday from 29 March to 26 July 2018 (TBD).

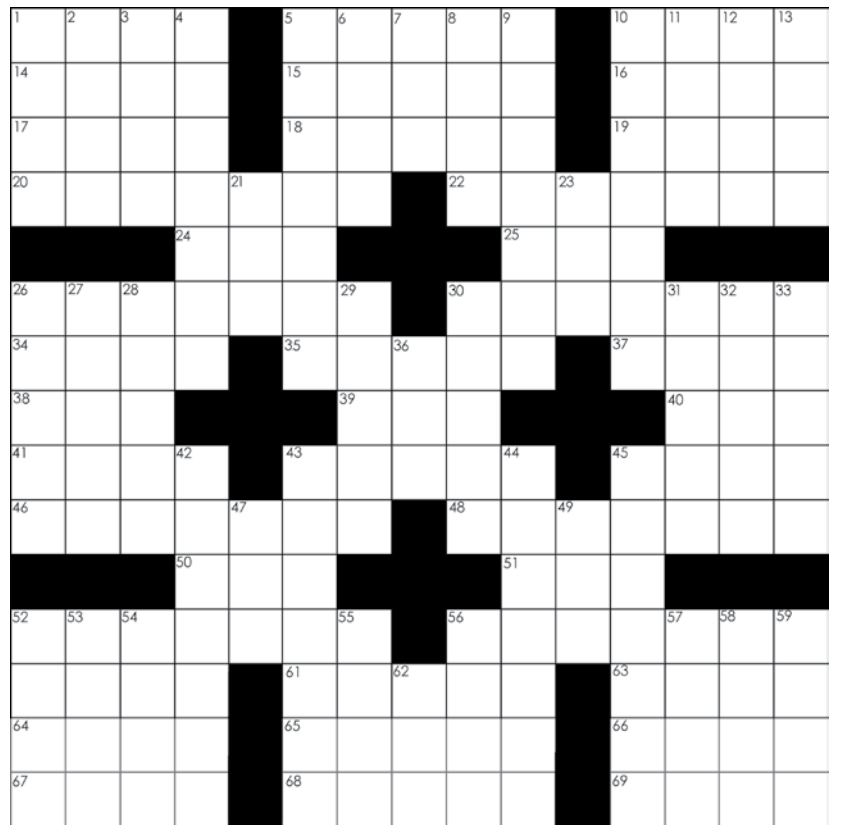
Transportation is provided; two mini buses depart from Checkertails at 1530 and return to Checkertails at approximately 1800 each Thursday.

The program's goal is to improve Korean children's English language skills by allowing them to spend time with our service members in their Korean school classrooms. Spouses are welcome to volunteer. If you are interested in this "Adopt-A-School English Tutoring Program", please contact 7 AF/PA Ms. Yom, Kyong Suk via email kyong_suk.yom.kr@us.af.mil or DSN 784-4724, cell: 010-4736-7979.



The Crossword

By Jon Dunbar



ACROSS

- 1 General ranking
- 5 Couches
- 10 Snubs
- 14 Goes with trip or barbed
- 15 Remove asbestos
- 16 Relax
- 17 Bank machines
- 18 President Richard
- 19 Baldwin or Guinness
- 20 Consumer protest
- 22 Marines in Korea
- 24 ___ ___ pickle
- 25 Me ___
- 26 Like Frasier or Angel
- 30 Washington river
- 34 Pot
- 35 Mistake
- 37 Information
- 38 Popular class in Korea

- 39 Atmosphere
- 40 Cape ___
- 41 ___ boy
- 43 Price estimate
- 45 Actor Tony ___
- 46 Citizen Kane's last word
- 48 Goes with frontal or amphibious
- 50 Winnie the Pooh character
- 51 Cook or Pawlenty
- 52 Sandwich meat
- 56 Dugout
- 60 In its present state
- 61 Descendant of a notable family
- 63 Military group
- 64 Hangeul letter
- 65 Boredom
- 66 Type of iPod
- 67 Fussy
- 68 Inventor Nikola
- 69 Tiny fly

DOWN

- 1 Q-Tip
- 2 Puente or Josip Broz
- 3 Land force
- 4 Cancel
- 5 New Mexico capital
- 6 Death announcement
- 7 Outdated communication machine
- 8 Goes with smasher or Egoyan
- 9 John McCain's title
- 10 Sannakji or bisque
- 11 FPS game franchise
- 12 Goes with drug or computer
- 13 Vulcan nerve pinch target
- 21 Yoko ___
- 23 Decompose
- 26 Give an oath
- 27 Italian sauce
- 28 Test for students of 38 across

- 29 Scam
- 30 Type of potty
- 31 Chinese resort city
- 32 Bikini ___
- 33 Officer in training
- 36 2016 Olympic host
- 42 Type of spray can
- 43 Type of hut
- 44 Latvia neighbor
- 45 North Korean evacuation site
- 47 Peaty marsh
- 49 Two times three
- 52 Californian peninsula
- 53 USFK airbase
- 54 Between Kilo and Mike
- 55 Pimple
- 56 Putrid
- 57 Judah's second son
- 58 Bart's sister
- 59 Coup d' ___

Answers (4-6-2018)	27 ESPN	62 RINSE	8 DACA	40 YUCCA
ACROSS	28 UFOS	63 FLU	9 AIRMEN	41 MOAI
-----	29 OSAN	64 ELVES	10 MOOBS	42 ASEA
1 ISLE	31 SLAM	66 SAGES	11 SLOOP	46 ERASED
5 CHA	34 SKIN	67 TOR	13 MOTIF	47 FIGURE
8 DAMS	35 MSN	68 OPALS	16 IKON	48 ALE
12 ALARM	38	69 NODS	22 ONO	49 VIDEO
14 AIL	PARALYMPIC	70 ARE	23 BASIC	50 BARS
15 AIOLI	GAMES	71 GLEN	25 NUMA	51 ASIAN
17 METRO	43 APC	DOWN	26 LOKI	52 RINGO
18 RNA	44 BUOY	-----	30 ANG	54 VALOR
19 CROOK	45 SAWA	1 IAMS	31 SPA	55 NAVAL
20 SET	46 ESCA	2 SLEEP	32 LAP	56 STELE
21 TOED	47 FAVE	3 LATTE	33 ARC	58 NESS
23 BAMBOO	50 BARR	4 ERR	34 SPY	61 ASSN
24	53 CIVILIANS	5 CARESS	35 MMA	63 FTA
PENINSULA	57 ASIANA	6 HINDU	36 SEW	65 LPG
	59 AGED	7 ALA	37 NSA	
	60 ATA		39 LBS	



McKayla Richardson, a student from Radford High School, assists Staff Sgt. Adele J. Dailey-Thomas and Lt. Col. Aaron S. Thaker from the 15th Medical Operations Squadron pediatrics clinic during Career Shadow Day at the 15th Medical Group, Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, Hawaii, March 28, 2018. The 15th MDG hosted Career Shadow Day to encourage students to learn more about careers available in health care. (U.S. Navy photo by David D. Underwood, Jr.)

15 MDG hosts next generation of medical providers

By 1st Lt. Avery Larkin, 15th Wing Public Affairs

JOINT BASE PEARL HARBOR-HICKAM, Hawaii -- The 15th Medical Group hosted nine students for Career Shadow Day, here, March 28 to teach future generations of medical providers about Air Force medicine.

Students from Radford High School were able to visit the 15th MDG due to coordination between the Hawaii Department of Education and the Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam School Liaison Office.

The outreach event was held in support of the Joint Venture Education Forum, a partnership between the U.S. Pacific Command military community and Hawaii DOE to meet the unique needs of military children and their families in public schools.

According to Lt. Col. Kasi Chu, 15th Medical Operations Squadron staff physician, outreach events like Career Shadow Day give military members a chance to encourage future generations of leaders and give back to the community.

"We are happy to host the students and encourage them in their interest in medicine, maybe even plant the seeds for future work in the Air Force Medical Service which offers amazing opportunities," Chu said. "Events like this allow us to be more involved in, and strengthen the relationship with, the local community which is always a positive thing."

During the visit, Radford upperclassmen learned about the paths to becoming a health care provider in the Air Force and the

Queenie Ofiaza, a student from Radford High School, assists Dr. John L. Bossian, a staff physician with the 15th Medical Operations Squadron, in checking a patient during Career Shadow Day at the 15th Medical Group, Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, Hawaii, March 28, 2018. The 15th MDG hosted Career Shadow Day to encourage students to learn more about careers available in health care. (U.S. Navy photo by David D. Underwood, Jr.) ▼



educational requirements for each career. They also learned how the Air Force offers scholarships for undergraduate degrees and medical school.

After a brief introduction to Air Force medicine, students were divided into groups to shadow six health care providers in family health, pediatrics, flight medicine and physical therapy.

"The student I had assigned to me was able to shadow me and see patients with me," said Dr. John

Bossian, 15th MDOS staff physician. "I like interacting with our young people. I like opening their eyes to the multitude of opportunities in the health care field, whether that's as a doctor, nurse, physician assistant, or one of the various types of technicians."

For more information on the various programs and events available to students in the local community, contact the JBPHH School Liaison Office at 471-3662.

Kunsan

Kunsan Photo Club
Interested in sharing your photography experience with others and exploring Korea along the way? Have a camera, but want to learn how to use it more completely? Then join the Kunsan Photo Club as they delve into the finer qualities of photography where the key concept is: "It's not the camera that makes a great photo, but the photographer." If interested in joining, the group can be found on Facebook, just search for "Kunsan Photo Club."

Wolf Pack Lodge
Lodging Space A Policy
Need a break? Got family visiting and no room to house them? You can book lodging rooms on a space available basis up to 120 days in advance for a maximum of 30 days depending on availability. You can also book reservations for the holiday season (November and December) up to 30 days in advance for a maximum of 15 days. (Depending on availability) Book now for all of those relatives coming for the holiday!

Reservations – Front Desk-DSN 782-1844 or Commercial (82)63-470-1844 FAX: DSN 315-782-0633 Commercial (82)63-470-0633

Sunday Sonlight dinner
Every Sunday, volunteers from a specific unit cook dinner for their fellow Wolf Pack members at the Sonlight Inn. The dinner begins at 6 p.m. following grace led by a chaplain. Meals range from "breakfast for dinner" to "Italian cooking" to

"Southern style." For more information or to volunteer, contact the chapel at 782-HOPE.

Sponsor training
Learn creative ways to assist newcomers reporting to Kunsan AB. Registration required. Class is held at the Airman and Family Readiness Center. Call 782-5644 for more information, dates or to sign up.

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

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

Osan

Airman and Family Readiness Center programs

***Bundles for Babies** - A workshop for expectant parents who want to learn more about parenting and support programs here at Osan. The class also offers you a finance piece that focuses on budgeting for your new baby from conception to college years and a chance to meet other new parents. Additionally, you'll receive a free "bundle" from the Air Force Aid Society.

***Separation & Retirement Benefits** - This is an optional workshop where separating and retiring members can learn about their benefits- includes briefings by MFLC, TMO, CPO, Finance, Tricare and SBP.

***Spouse Orientation** - This is a great opportunity for spouses to learn about the 51st Fighter Wing Mission, Non-combatant Evacuation Operation (NEO) process, and receive a protective (gas) mask demonstration. Spouses will also have an opportunity to meet key base representatives and learn about Korean Culture. As a bonus, a community information fair will end the day.

Anthem Singers
Sopranos, altos, tenors and bass vocalists are needed to sing the US and ROK National Anthems at various events on base. Practice is held at 5 p.m. every Tuesday at the Chapel Annex. For more information, send an e-mail to: nicholas.smith.21@us.af.mil or ric.rebulanan.1@us.af.mil

***Volunteers' Training** - The goal is to ensure all our volunteers are registered and they receive all tools and information to keep them informed of volunteer opportunities. For more information, call [784-0119](tel:784-0119).

Volunteers for USFK Civilian Employees Appreciation Week
Each year, the USFK Commander takes time to recognize civilian employees for their accomplishments, contributions, and dedication to the USFK mission. This year, General Brooks has designated 11-15 September as USFK Civilian Employees Appreciation Week. We are currently seeking volunteers (US/LN Civilians, Active Duty Military, and Spouses/Family members) to assist in the planning and execution of this wonderful event. If you would like to volunteer to serve as a committee member, please contact Ms. Kim, Min Kyo, min_kyo.kim.kr@us.af.mil or Ms. Precious Clermont, precious.clermont@us.af.mil at [784-4434/8177](tel:784-44348177).

Open Continuous Vacancy Announcement for Pacific West Educational Aide positions
Applicants who previously applied under the Open Continuous Vacancies will need to update their application and required documents under the new announcement numbers if they wish to be considered for the SY 17/18
PLEASE re-iterate to these interested applicants to have a complete resume attached. This includes but not limited to total employment period, i.e., starting and ending dates (month and year) and number of hours per week for each work experience, paid and unpaid. A description of duties and accomplishments for each experience, including volunteer. If a current or former Federal employee, highest Federal civilian grade held, job series, and dates of employment.
Here is the direct link to the 2017 school support positions.
Job Title: Educational Aide (GS-1702-04)
Job Announcement Number: 17-042-KO-LG-1981388
<https://www.usajobs.gov/GetJob/ViewDetails/473464800>

Emergency Services	911	Commander's Hotline	782-5224
Off Base/Cell Emergency	063-470-0911	After-hours medical advice	782-4333
Crime Stop: (to report a crime)	782-5444	IG Complaints FWA Reporting:	782-4850 (duty hours) 782-4942 (anytime)
Base Locator: (after duty hours)	782-4743	Chaplain (After duty hours)	782-6000
Law Enforcement desk	782-4944	Sexual Assault Response Coordinator (SARC)	782-7272
Emergency Leave / Red Cross		782-4601 (on base) 1-800-733-2761 (anytime)	

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

CHAPEL SCHEDULE

KUNSAN AIR BASE

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

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

Other Worship Opportunities
LDS Service
 Sunday, 11:00 a.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

Protestant Services
 -Community Service @ 1030
 -Gospel Service @ 1230
Regular Occuring Ministries:
PYOC: (Middle School & High School Students)
 - Mondays—1830-2000 @ Chapel Spiritual Fitness Center.
PCOC: (AWANA)
 - Wednesdays @ Chapel. Age 3 to 6th grade meet 1800 -1930 & grades 7th-12th meet 1700-1800 .

PMOC: (Men)
 - Tuesdays - 1830 @ Chapel Annex.
PSOC: (Singles & Unaccompanied)
 "Osan Hospitality House"
 - Bible Studies:
 *Saturdays - 1900 @ Hospitality House. Dinner is provided.

Sundays - 1700 @ Community Center, Classroom #3.
 - Game Night:
 *Fridays - 1900 @ Hospitality House. Dinner is provided.

*Van pickup: Fridays: Chapel @ 1730, Mustang CTR @ 1735.
 Saturdays: Chapel @ 1830, Mustang CTR @ 1835.

PWOC: (Women) "PWOC Osan AB"
 - Mondays 1800-2000, Tuesdays 0845-1100 @ Chapel Annex (Child Watchcare provided) & Sunday 1600-1730 @ Posco Apartments .

MOPS: Join us for OSAN MOPS!
 - Meet twice a month on Wednesday @ the Chapel Annex

Contact: osanmops@gmail.com
 <mail to: osanmops@gmail.com>

Catholic Mass
Daily Mass
 Tuesday – Thursday, 11:30 a.m., Chapel
Reconciliation
 Saturday, 4 p.m (or by appointment), Chapel
Vigil Mass
 Saturday, 5 p.m., Chapel
Sunday Mass
 Sunday, 8:30 a.m., Chapel

Catholic Ministries
Catholic RE
 Sunday, 10 a.m., Chapel Annex
Korean Prayer Group
 Tuesday, 9:30 a.m.
Blessed Sacrament
Bible Study
 Tuesday, 6 p.m., Chapel Annex Rm 4
Women of the Chapel
 Meet Monthly, Please call 784-5000

Other Faith Groups
Earth-Based (Contact the Chapel)
Jewish (Contact the Chapel)
Muslim (Contact the Chapel)
Buddhist (Contact the Chapel)
LDS Sunday, 1 p.m., Contact the Chapel

Point of Contact:
 Osan Chapel, 784-5000
Visit us on SharePoint:
<https://osan.eim.pacaf.af.mil/51FW/51FW-HC/default.aspx>

Visit us on Facebook (OSAN AB CHAPEL)
<https://www.facebook.com/OsanAB-Chapel>

USAG-YONGSAN

Protestant Services
Traditional Service
 Sunday, 9:30 a.m.
Memorial Chapel, Bldg 1597
 Sunday, 9:30 a.m.
Brian Allgood Hospital Chapel
Contemporary Service
 Sunday, 9 a.m.
South Post Chapel, Bldg 3702
 Sunday, 10:30 a.m.
K-16 Chapel
Nondenominational Service
 Sunday, 11 a.m.
South Post Chapel, Bldg 3702
Gospel Service
 Sunday, 1 p.m.
South Post Chapel, Bldg 3702
Pentecostal
 Sunday, 1:30 p.m.
Memorial Chapel, Bldg 1597
Latter Day Saints (LDS)
 Sunday, 4 p.m.
South Post Chapel, Bldg 3702
Seventh-Day Adventist
 Saturday, 9:30 a.m.
Brian Allgood Hospital Chapel
KATUSA
 Tuesday, 6:30 p.m.
Memorial Chapel , Bldg 1597

Catholic Mass
 Sunday, 8 a.m.
Memorial Chapel, Bldg 1597
 Sunday, 11:30 a.m.
Memorial Chapel, Bldg 1597
 Saturday, 5 p.m.
Memorial Chapel, Bldg 1597
 1st Saturday, 9 a.m.
Memorial Chapel, Bldg 1597
 M/W/T/F, 11:45 a.m.
Memorial Chapel, Bldg 1597
 Tuesday, 11:45 p.m.
Brian Allgood Hospital Chapel

General Service
Episcopal Service
 Sunday, 11 a.m.
Brian Allgood Hospital Chapel

Jewish
 Friday, 7 p.m.
South Post Chapel, Bldg 3702



Point of Contact:
 USAG Yongsan Religious Support Office, 738-3011
Visit us on SharePoint:
<http://www.army.mil/yongsan>

SPIRITUAL CHARGE

Who are your "Heroes?"

A hero or heroine is a person or main character of a literary work or someone in real life, who in the face of danger, combats adversity through impressive feats of ingenuity, bravery, or strength, often sacrificing their own personal concerns for a greater good.

In the Chaplain Corps, we have heroes who are part of our heritage. They inspire us to serve with selflessness. The most renowned heroes are known simply as "The Four Chaplains." These chaplains are revered for giving their lives for the sake of others on a cold dark night in the northern Atlantic. This group of chaplains fresh out of training included a Methodist minister, the Reverend George L. Fox, a Reform Rabbi Alexander D. Goode, a Roman Catholic priest Father John P. Washington, and a Reformed Church in America minister Clark V. Poling. They embarked on the U.S.A.T. Dorchester from New York on 23 January 1943 en route to Europe, by way of Greenland, with approximately 900 others, as part of a convoy of three ships.

The waters off the coast of Greenland were filled with German U-Boats, like the Great Barrier Reef is filled with sharks. Personnel on board were told to sleep with their clothes and life vests on, but few did because of the heat in the sleeping areas below deck. Before dawn on 3 February, the ship's captain, Hans J. Danielsen, was alerted that Coast Guard sonar had detected a submarine. Shortly thereafter, a torpedo struck the ship. There was an explosion damaged the ship and knocked out the ship's electrical system, leaving the ship dark.



Ch, Major Timothy Hirten
51st Fighter Wing Chaplain Corps

Panic set in among the men on board, many of them were trapped below decks.

The chaplains sought to calm the men and organize an orderly evacuation of the ship, and helped guide wounded men to safety. Many men did not have their life vests; these chaplains gave

theirs to others. Another man was trying to go back to his quarters to get his gloves. Rabbi Goode handed gloves to help him get off more quickly. "But, I can't take your gloves," the soldier replied. "Don't worry, I have two pair," the Rabbi said. The soldier who received the gloves survived and later recounted, the chaplain didn't have an extra pair; he didn't need his gloves because the chaplain didn't plan to leave the ship.

The chaplains sang and prayed arm-in-arm as the ship quickly descended into the cold dark ocean. According to reports, survivors could hear different languages mixed in the prayers of the chaplains, including Jewish prayers in Hebrew and Catholic prayers in Latin as the ship sunk. "Their songs and prayers were the only thing that kept me going," one survivor attested.

In less than 20 minutes, the Dorchester had sunk. Only 230 of the 904 men aboard the ship were rescued. Life jackets offered little protection from hypothermia, which killed most men in the frigid water.

I sometimes wonder how I would respond in such a situation. I pray I'll never be tested by the need to give my life in this way. But you and I are tested each and every day. Each day gives us the opportunity to serve others or serve ourselves. It is these daily choices we make that form us as life-giving-servants. These chaplains didn't wake up that morning as heroes. It was the attitude in their heart that had formed through years of service and a life dedicated to others. It is my prayer that you and I may daily develop this spiritual discipline.

Vandenberg AFB unveils solar array project

By Staff Sgt. Victoria H. Taylor
8th Fighter Wing Public Affairs

VANDENBERG AIR FORCE BASE, Calif. (AFNS) -- Local elected officials, key Vandenberg Air Force Base leaders, base affiliates and local media came together for the 28 megawatt solar photovoltaic array dedication, April 10, 2018, at Vandenberg AFB.

With a ceremonial switch in the foreground of the stage, representatives from SunPower, Defense Logistics Agency Energy, Vandenberg Air Force Base, and the Secretary of Air Force Environment, Safety and Infrastructure sat together, each awaiting their time to approach the podium.

"This is a really big event for the base, and for the community as well," said Col. Gregory Wood, 30th Space Wing vice commander. "This solar farm represents a partnership and ability for us to explore renewable and clean energy for the base. What you see around you is capable of providing one third of all the power to this installation, which happens to be the third largest Air Force base that we have, so that is a significant accomplishment. It speaks volumes for all the hard work that went into making this happen."

In order to achieve resiliency of power, many aspects were assessed in completing this project.

"From an Air Force perspective on energy, we are looking at three things," said Mark Correll, deputy assistant secretary of the Air Force for environment, safety, and infrastructure. "First and foremost is resiliency. If we were to be separated

Local elected officials, key Vandenberg Air Force Base leaders, base affiliates and local media came together for the 28 megawatt solar photovoltaic array dedication, April 10, 2018, at Vandenberg AFB. The ceremony included representatives from SunPower, the Defense Logistics Agency Energy, Vandenberg Air Force Base, and the Secretary of Air Force Environment, Safety and Infrastructure. (U.S. Air Force photo by Airman 1st Class Clayton Wear)



Local elected officials, key Vandenberg Air Force Base leaders, base affiliates and local media came together for the 28 megawatt solar photovoltaic array dedication, April 10, 2018, at Vandenberg AFB. The ceremony included representatives from SunPower, Defense Logistics Agency Energy, Vandenberg Air Force Base, and the Secretary of Air Force Environment, Safety and Infrastructure. (U.S. Air Force photo by Airman 1st Class Clayton Wear)

from the power grid in some way, shape or form; how would we be able to recover from that to continue our mission? Power systems like this provide that kind of resilience. The second thing we care about is cost. We have changed our focus a little bit. It's not all about saving money, it's all about resiliency, but at the same time we can't just pay whatever it takes to make that happen. Then the third thing from an Air Force perspective is that we are interested in clean power with a focus on renewable energy."

Through the lens of those three focal points, the solar array is now a key provider of base power.

"We understand the importance of energy when it comes to military operations and a need for a reliable and resilient power on a military installation," said Frank Rechner, deputy director of supplier operations for Defense Logistics Agency Energy. "We are well aware that energy diversification is key both in operational and facility environments. As of January 8th, this large scale 28 megawatt direct current solar

array became fully operational and is producing electricity. This is the largest solar array project in which all energy is produced and consumed by the Air Force."

To conclude the dedication, each representative took an equal grip of the switch to officially signify the completion of the project. Joined by a SunPower subject matter expert, the group finished their visit with a tour of the newly installed solar panels to see, firsthand, the scale of this project.

Thriving in wake of assault is focus of Air Force Academy summit



Lt. Gen. Jay Silveria, Air Force Academy superintendent, gives closing remarks during the Academy's Pathways to Thriving summit in Polaris Hall at the U.S. Air Force Academy, Colo., April 10, 2018. The two-day summit included a wide-variety of presenters who discussed topics ranging from the neurobiology of healing and mindfulness to the Academy's response and procedures that occur when an assault is reported. (U.S. Air Force photo by Staff Sgt. Charles Rivezzo)

By U.S. Air Force Academy Public Affairs staff, U.S. Air Force Academy Public Affairs

U.S. AIR FORCE ACADEMY, Colo. (AFNS) -- Survivors of sexual assault gathered at the U.S. Air Force Academy this week to collaborate with leaders and subject matter experts on how to not only survive an assault, but to thrive in its wake.

"For the victims who are here, I'm sorry, I'm sorry for what happened to you," said Lt. Gen. Jay Silveria, Academy superintendent, to survivors attending the Air Force Academy's Pathways to Thriving summit April 10, 2018. "I'm terribly sorry as the face of this institution ... but I'm exceedingly grateful that you came, this has been so inspiring in so many ways."

This first ever summit for survivors was held to include sexual assault survivors in the discussion on where the Academy has been and

how it moves forward, according to organizer Dr. Kimberly Dickman, Sexual Assault Prevention and Response program manager at USAFA.

The two-day summit included a wide-variety of presenters who discussed topics ranging from the neurobiology of healing and mindfulness to the institutional response and procedures that occur when an assault is reported.

"But more importantly, we built in several hours for attendees to brainstorm with each other and I think that was the value of getting them all in the room together," Dickman said. "These working groups were tasked with coming up with improvements to our current SAPR efforts and presenting those ideas to leadership for implementation."

The sessions were closed to the media to protect the privacy of survivors and at the same time promote open dialogue and free exchange of ideas on a topic often hard to discuss. The audience included current cadets and cadets

from as far back as the 1970's as well as social workers, psychologists and sexual assault experts. This exchange of ideas is crucial to Silveria.

"I talk about better ideas a lot in my role as superintendent, whether those ideas have to do with academic schedules or how we engage the community or how we help solve the Air Force's pilot shortage," Silveria said. "But I can think of no better place where the power of better ideas can make a difference than in the area of sexual assault prevention and response."

Silveria closed the summit with a blunt assessment of the issue of sexual assault.

"We all know we have a problem," he said. "If we have one sexual assault that is a problem and I'm committed to confronting this problem and taking it on directly like having summits, meeting with survivors. I'm absolutely committed to that. This is foundational that we must treat each other with respect and dignity."



Lt. Col. Cheryl Buehn, 71st Fighter Training Squadron T-38A Talon instructor pilot, prepares for takeoff at Joint Base Langley-Eustis, Va., March 13, 2018. Buehn commissioned through the U.S Air Force Academy and, while there, she was selected to train in the Euro-NATO Joint-Jet Pilot Training Program. (U.S. Air Force photo by Tech. Sgt. Natasha Stannard)

NZ Demonstration Team Excursion Comes to Close

By Senior Airman Jarrod Vickers,
Pacific Air Forces

CHRISTCHURCH, New Zealand -- The Pacific Air Forces' F-16 Fighting Falcon and C-17 Globemaster III demonstration teams depart Canterbury after a week of training and flying for the Warbirds Over Wanaka (WOW) International Airshow 2018 at Wanaka, New Zealand, April 3, 2018.

"New Zealanders are very professional, they did a great job," said Maj. Richard Smeeding, Pacific Air Forces F-16 demonstration pilot. "They were very accommodating for us, especially since fighter jets haven't been on the south island since 1984."

The F-16s drew a larger crowd than usual for the WOW International Airshow. According to Ed Taylor, the WOW International Airshow 2018 General Manager, this year's show attracted 55,000 attendees – in large part to the F-16s' appearance.

"We were just thrilled to have it," Taylor said. "When the F-16 was performing over Wanaka, there was not one person doing anything else



Staff Sgt. Caleb Laurent, 14th Aircraft Maintenance Unit weapons load team chief, shows Ambassador Scott Brown, the U.S. Ambassador to New Zealand, M206 flares used during aerial demonstrations at Christchurch, New Zealand, March 29, 2018. U.S. forces participated in Warbirds Over Wanaka (WOW) International Airshow 2018 to strengthen military-to-military ties with our New Zealand partners while enhancing relationships with partners in the Indo-Pacific region. Aerial events like WOW Airshow 18 provide the U.S. an opportunity to strengthen its international partnerships and military-to-military relationships with allies and partners throughout the region. (U.S. Air Force photo by Senior Airman Jarrod Vickers)



but watching it. Everyone stopped and looked skyward. Everybody had a huge grin on their face, and that's when I knew we hit the nail on the head."

The show originated in 1988 and has grown to become the largest Warbird airshow in the southern hemisphere. Taylor says, the U.S. Air Force demonstration teams left a lasting mark on the show's attendees.

"One of our vision statements for the airshow is to educate and inspire," Taylor said. "We really did that because we reached out to a different audience with this year's show. The Supermarine Spitfires, Hawker Hurricanes and Curtiss P-40 Kittyhawks are from another era and we'll always be enchanted by those aircraft; to a lot of younger people, an F-16 is the Spitfire of their generation."

The demonstration teams operated out of Christchurch International Airport, almost 260 miles from where the show was held. Even in Christchurch, enthusiasts would line the perimeter fence for a chance to talk with the pilots.

"After a day of flying, we would go walk the fence and meet everybody," Smeeding said. "We'd hand out stickers, sign stuff, shake hands and just interact with the local populous. It was very humbling."

The amount of fervor locals displayed reverberated throughout the entire trip, Smeeding said.

"It's unlike anything I've ever seen before," Smeeding said. "I've seen people who are very excited about aviation and the people here just blew me away with their hospitality."

This year marks the 30th anniversary of the WOW International Airshow and featured the fourth appearance by the U.S. Air Force.

Maj. Richard Smeeding, 13th Fighter Squadron F-16 pilot, performs a demonstration flight at the Warbirds Over Wanaka (WOW) International Airshow 2018 at Wanaka, New Zealand, April 1, 2018. U.S. forces are participating in WOW Airshow 2018 to strengthen military-to-military ties with our New Zealand partners while enhancing relationships with partners in the Indo-Pacific region. Aerial events like WOW Airshow 18 provide the U.S. an opportunity to strengthen its international partnerships and military-to-military relationships with allies and partners throughout the region. (U.S. Air Force photo by Senior Airman Jarrod Vickers)



Capt. Jacob Impellizzeri, 14th Fighter Squadron F-16 pilot, engages with on-lookers after landing from a training flight at Christchurch International Airport, New Zealand, March 29, 2018. Capt. Impellizzeri spent the week performing upgrade training to qualify him as the new demonstration pilot for the Pacific Air Forces' F-16 demonstration team. The Pacific Air Forces' F-16 demonstration team is in New Zealand for the Warbirds Over Wanaka International Airshow, the largest 'Warbird' display in the Southern Hemisphere with four nations participating: United States, New Zealand, Australia and French Armed Forces of New Caledonia. (U.S. Air Force photo by Senior Airman Jarrod Vickers)

362 TRS Airman receives first-ever Army Instructor Badge

Army Maj. Gen. Malcom Frost, Center for Initial Military Training commanding general, pins the Basic Army Instructor Badge on Air Force Staff Sgt. Casey Andersen, 362nd Training Squadron, Detachment 1 HH-60 helicopter crew chief instructor, at Joint Base Langley-Eustis, Va., April 9, 2018. While the AIB has only been around four years, Air Force instructors have been a part of JB Langley-Eustis' 128th Aviation Brigade for 33 years. (U.S. Air Force photo by Staff Sgt. Teresa J. Cleveland)

By Staff Sgt. Teresa J. Cleveland, 633rd Air Base Wing Public Affairs



JOINT BASE LANGLEY-EUSTIS, Va. (AFNS) -- For the first time ever, an Airman was awarded the Basic Army Instructor Badge at Joint Base Langley-Eustis, April 9, 2018.

Air Force Staff Sgt. Casey Andersen, 362nd Training Squadron, Detachment 1 HH-60 helicopter crew chief instructor, was teaching a class of Airmen and Soldiers when Army Maj. Gen. Malcom Frost, Center for Initial Military Training commanding general, presented him with the BAIB.

The AIB, awarded in basic, senior and master levels, was created for Army noncommissioned officers in 2014 to recognize the professionalism of the educators responsible for training, leading and mentoring Soldiers. Although the badge has only been around four years, Air Force instructors have been a part of the 128th Aviation Brigade for 33 years.

Due to the verbiage of Army Regulation 600-

21, Noncommissioned Officer Education System Instructor Development and Recognition Program, leaders believed only Soldiers were eligible for earning the badge—until now.

“Once we asked the question about Air Force instructors, no one could say why they couldn’t qualify, so we got started getting everything together to get Andersen qualified,” said Air Force Capt. Richard Collier, 1st Det. commander. “Now, we’re looking to make it a standard process for all of our Air Force instructors.”

The 82nd Training Group’s 362nd TRS, 1st Det., is the only Air Force training unit on JB Langley-Eustis, producing not only Air Force, but also Army helicopter-qualified aircraft maintenance crew chiefs.

The Det. 1 instructors work hand-in-hand with 128th Aviation Brigade, 2nd Battalion and 210th Aviation Regiment’s Bravo Company to provide both

Airmen and Soldiers UH-60 Black Hawk training in the Army-controlled Interservice Training Review Organization course.

Andersen, a technical sergeant select, first came through the 128th AB as a student in 2011. Now as an instructor, he’s learned to work with sister and international services as an instructor.

“I have two different chains of command, but I’m integrated with the Army,” said Andersen. “It’s a unique experience because you get to see how the services differ and it really helps you grow.”

Collier believes it is appropriate that Andersen is the first Airman to receive the badge due to his high-speed nature.

“Andersen is that Airman we want the newest Airmen to see,” said Collier. “He’s that Airman everyone likes, everyone respects and everyone trusts. He fits that whole Airman concept and really deserves this.”

U.S., Philippine forces improve interoperability through bilateral training

Pacific Air Forces Public Affairs

JOINT BASE PEARL HARBOR-HICKAM, Hawaii -- By invitation of the government of the Philippines, U.S. and Philippine armed forces will conduct subject matter expert exchanges at various military installations throughout the Philippines,

23 April-4 May, 2018.

U.S. Air Force Airmen will participate in exchanges that will cover command and control tactics and humanitarian assistance and disaster relief responses.

As part of this contingent, Pacific Air Forces will send HH-60G Pave Hawk helicopters and Airmen from units across the Pacific, to Clark

Air Base and Mactan-Benito Ebuen Air Base, Philippines.

The exchange is the sixth iteration of the U.S.-Philippine Air Contingent established by U.S. Pacific Command and executed by Headquarters Pacific Air Forces. The first U.S.-Philippine Air Contingent occurred in April of 2016.



24th ANNUAL AUSA ESSAY CONTEST



Subject: "Life in Korea"
Title: Author's Choice

Essay must be based on the author's personal experience (either work or social) in Korea
Open to all U.S. Service members, Civilians and their Family members currently in Korea.

GRAND PRIZE (One Winner) ₩ 1,000,000
FIRST PRIZE (Two Winners) ₩ 700,000
SECOND PRIZE (Three Winners) ₩ 500,000

- **Essay Length: 1,000 to 2,000 words**
- **Deadline for Entry: 11 May 2018**
- **Format: MS Word document/double spaced**
- **Prize Winners will be announced 1 June 2018 and prizes awarded on 22 June 2018**
- **Award Time and Location: TBD, Camp Humphreys**

A brief resume of the author must be enclosed including full name, phone number, unit and mailing address.

For more information call Timothy K. Spann at 755-4032.
Email your (MS Word file and resume) essay to: timothy.k.spann.civ@mail.mil

Sponsored by Korea Corporate Members of the Association of U.S. Army (AUSA)

2018 GOOD NEIGHBOR AWARD CEREMONY (NOMINATION PACKET NLT 23 MAY)

The Seventh Air Force Public Affairs is soliciting nominations for 2018 USFK Good Neighbor Awards. The awards recognize ROK/US individuals and organizations for exceptional contributions resulting in a better quality of life for US service/family members and/or enhancement of ROK-US relations.

7AF HQ (including 7AF groups, COBs and others), 51 FW (including tenant units) and 8 FW may submit nominations in each of the categories.

Every unit is invited to nominate. Please encourage them to take the time to write a strong justification for the outstanding individuals or organizations that make a positive contribution to your units and the community.

Please provide a strong NARRATIVE JUSTIFICATION using the format and example (Contact 7 AF/PA for these.) with Brief BIOGRAPHY or RESUME and DIGITAL PICTURE of the nominee (ID Photo) to 7AF/PA Mr. Park at do_young.park.kr@us.af.mil NO LATER THAN 23 MAY 2018.

AWARDS CATEGORIES:

- **Good Neighbor Award:**
@ KOREAN CITIZEN or @ KOREAN ORGANIZATION
- **Ambassador for the Alliance Good Neighbor Award:**
@ U.S. SERVICE MEMBER (E1-9, W1-3 or O1-3) or @ U.S. UNIT
- **Family Member Ambassador for the Alliance Good Neighbor Award:**
@ FAMILY MEMBER of U.S. Service Member or
@ FAMILY MEMBER of DOD Civilian
- **DOD Civilian Ambassador for the Alliance Good Neighbor Award:**
@ DOD CIVILIAN or @ KGS employees
- **Non-DOD Civilian Ambassador for the Alliance Good Neighbor Award:**
@ CONTRACTORS, FAMILY MEMBERS of CONTRACTORS,
EXPATRIATES,
FAMILY MEMBERS of EXPATRIATES

* USFK will convene a selection board to review and rank all nominations and forward the completed ranked list to the USFK Commander for the final selection of awardees. Those who win will be invited to attend the awards ceremony.

* POC for this event are USFK PAO Ms. Song, Min Kyong at 723-7669, min.k.song.ln@mail.mil and 7AF/PA Mr. Park at 784-4709, do_young.park.kr@us.af.mil.

An opportunity for multilingual Airmen



Students from partner nations work together in a joint exercise at the Inter European Air Forces Academy. The Air Force Culture and Language Center seeks to form a corps of general purpose Airmen to take on missions around the world through its Language Enabled Airman Program. (Courtesy photo by Air Force Culture and Language Center)

By Brian Goddin, AFIMSC Public Affairs

RAMSTEIN AIR BASE, Germany (AFNS) -- Do you know one or more foreign languages? You may be eligible for the Language Enabled Airman Program.

The Air Force Culture and Language Center is forming a corps of multilingual Airmen to take on missions around the world, and recently released a memorandum detailing the 2018 LEAP recruitment process.

This year's application window for active duty enlisted and officer Airmen began on March 20, 2018, and will continue until June 16. Applicants

must have at least 48 months time-in-service.

LEAP centers around the concept of specially-identified multilingual Airmen who go on missions every few years to serve as translators and sharpen their foreign language skills. The program's objective is to produce cross-culturally competent leaders from all Air Force career fields to support missions around the world, said Lt. Col. Laura Hunt, AFCLC LEAP Language Intensive Training Events program manager.

"LEAP Airmen serve as ambassadors of the U.S. Air Force," she said. "They go through special training and obtain a special experience indicator. If somebody has that SEI, I can be confident that if I send them out they will

successfully accomplish their mission. They are trained, vetted, and competent in their language and culture."

LEAP Airmen develop their skills through training, mentorship programs and temporary duty assignments.

Hunt added that LEAP temporary duties vary widely, and can include humanitarian missions, training exercises, cultural immersion programs and professional military education.

An Airman's journey through the LEAP application process begins with the defense language proficiency test. As of 2018, there are more than 30 languages an Airman can test in.

Hunt encouraged potential applicants not to worry about scoring high on the tests, because the objective of LEAP is to mentor, improve and develop Airmen in their language skills.

"If you speak more than one language, test in every one you can," she said. "Take as many DLPTs as you can and don't worry about the scores. Just show us you have an aptitude for language."

Applicants may also take an Oral Proficiency Interview in case a DLPT is unavailable. Those who wish to schedule a DLPT or OPI must contact their local education office.

For more information about LEAP, visit the Air Force Culture and Language Center website at <http://culture.af.mil/leap/index.html>

688th CW hosts mentorship program

By Tech. Sgt. R.J. Biermann, Air Forces Cyber Public Affairs

JOINT BASE SAN ANTONIO-LACKLAND, Texas (AFNS) -- The 688th Cyberspace Wing wrapped up its inaugural mentorship program April 12, 2018.

Airpower Leadership Academy provided 11 staff and technical sergeants the opportunity to learn from several senior noncommissioned officer facilitators during 10 weekly, two-hour sessions, all with one goal in mind.

"The purpose of ALA is to develop junior NCOs into strong leaders by helping them find and solidify their leadership philosophy," said Master Sgt. Rudy Chavez, 92nd Cyberspace Operations Squadron operations superintendent and ALA director.

ALA is unrelated to professional military education, such as Airman Leadership School or Noncommissioned Officer Academy; and supplemental education, such as the NCO Professional Enhancement Seminar.

"This program builds on the PME foundation through deliberate mentorship," said Chief Master Sgt. Emilio Avila, 688th Cyberspace Wing command chief master sergeant. "We connect senior NCOs—who are able to provide perspective—with junior NCOs, so these junior NCOs can find and feel comfortable with their leadership style."

Each session was focused on an individual leadership quality, such as empowerment, resilience and effective influence. Although facilitators guided themed discussion, students were encouraged to share their feedback and experiences with the group.

The students voiced their opinions about leadership, and agreed and disagreed with one another. This cross-talk helped each of them see where they were right or wrong, or maybe just needed better direction, according to Chavez.

One student said he benefited greatly from his attendance.

"ALA took the best part of PME and gave it a dedicated venue, the free discussion of topics impacting the force amongst peers," said Tech. Sgt. Kendall Priest, 836th Cyberspace Operations

Squadron Maintenance and Support NCO in charge. "It has given me better insight into the thought processes of those around me. I think getting the diverse perspective of others will help immensely in leadership and everyday situations."

The program was originally created at Osan Air Base, South Korea, by Chief Master Sgt. Randy Kwiatkowski, now 56th Fighter Wing command chief at Luke Air Force Base, Arizona. Avila directed the program at Osan AB and, after arriving here, introduced it to Chavez. It has also spread to a handful of other bases, including Beale Air Force Base, California, and Luke AFB.

"Master Sgt. Chavez took this program and ran with it," Avila said. "He made it his own and got a great group of senior NCOs behind it. This is a great program for any wing; and if you get a great junior NCO out of it, it's something you should invest in."

The next course iteration is scheduled for this fall and will also be opened up to the 688th CW's sister wing, the 67th Cyberspace Wing. Students must be nominated by their squadron leaders or current graduates.



Maj. Shawnee Williams (second from right) stands with her team (from left) -- Maj. Bryan Jackson, Dr. Daniel Mountjoy, Mr. Corey Shanahan and Capt. Dan Neal -- in the newly renovated anthropometry lab at the 711th Human Performance Wing's Human Systems Integration Directorate at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Ohio. (U.S. Air Force photo by Rick Eldridge)

Safety perspective has allowed Human Systems Integration program to thrive

By Kim Bowden
711th Human Performance Wing

WRIGHT-PATTERSON AIR FORCE BASE, Ohio (AFNS) -- When Maj. Shawnee Williams arrived at the Human Systems Integration Directorate, part of the Air Force Research Laboratory's 711th Human Performance Wing at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Ohio, she found herself in unfamiliar territory and facing an operationally misunderstood program. So she looked at the programmatic of her division through a lens she knew: safety. She asked her leadership to trust her, and the result is a reinvigorated laboratory -- not to mention one very big award.

After earning a degree in criminal justice, Williams entered the Air Force as a logistics readiness officer and later decided to cross train. She finished her master's degree in human factors and ergonomics and became an aerospace and operational physiologist. Williams conducted aircrew hypoxia training for three years and then received the first role as a physiologist serving as a flight safety officer, followed by an Air Force Safety

Center fellowship in 2009, where she took part in several Air Force safety investigations and worked on the Air Force Safety Automated System. Her career has been safety-oriented ever since.

After her time at the Safety Center, Williams served as a flight safety officer again and stood up the first simulator-based Reduced Oxygen Breathing Device training for CV-22 Osprey, HH-60 Pave Hawk, UH-1 Huey and C-130 Hercules aircrew. During this time, she also received her doctorate in psychology. Then Williams moved to RAF Lakenheath.

"I was at the tip of the spear with F-15C (Eagle) hypoxia issues, On-Board Oxygen Generating Systems issues, you name it," she said. "I was the only physiologist for both (RAF) Lakenheath and (RAF) Mildenhall. But, because I had safety experience, I was also matrixed to the safety office conducting safety investigations."

Later, when Williams received her physiology board certification from the Aerospace Medical Association, she was approached by then-Col. Kathryn Hughes, who was at that time the director of the Human Systems Integration Directorate. Shortly thereafter, Williams was reassigned to

the 711th HPW.

Williams arrived at the HSI Directorate in July 2016 and found her footing as the deputy division chief of the Implementation Division.

"As soon as I got there, I said, 'This is safety through and through,'" she said. "My recommendation was to change the focus on the safety HSI domain from a singular technical definition to one defined by the whole concept of safety. After briefing leadership on the safety functions and the operational links with HSI, the Human Systems Implementation Division began to codify their processes in a different way. Together we broadened the view of safety to not only include weapon systems development but also the Air Force safety investigation lens."

It turned out that Williams' safety lens was a good one: her division was awarded the Air Force Materiel Command 2017 Air Force Chief of Safety Special Achievement Award.

Even with her leadership on board, Williams had to start from scratch. At the time of her arrival, the division's anthropometry lab was an undefined space that was manned by a lieutenant and a civilian with no prior experience. She

worked to get equipment accounts and refine what equipment they needed. She worked with leadership to hire more people, created a training plan and defined how to grow an anthropometry professional. Then she realized it was more than just anthropometry, because the lab was also going to begin performing task analysis, requirements verification, product assessment and more for the Air Force, Army and Navy.

With a robust staff in place and a refined focus on where they wanted to take HSI, Williams and the team re-examined their projects, such as exoskeleton evaluation.

Williams and the team have started to ask, "When we look at the exoskeleton, for example, how do we want to do task analysis for that? How do we want to look at mishap prevention from an occupational hazard standpoint? Because

that's really what we want exoskeletons to do -- alleviate the musculoskeletal burden that people are facing in the depots. Let us try it, let us give you the portfolio on these different exoskeletons, and see if it's right for your mission."

"I think that's a huge piece with preventive safety," Williams added. "And it resonates outside of the Air Force, as well. We briefed NASA on the exoskeleton, for example, and they were interested not just in how it might help astronauts lift things but also on how it might provide resistance training so they don't experience so much atrophy while in space. We don't get involved in the research and development, of course, but the applications from a safety standpoint are tremendous."

Next up for Williams and her team is an analysis of the U-28 aircraft, which she describes as the capstone for this revitalization effort.

"We got the people, we got the tools, we got the training plan in place," Williams said. "Now we get to go do the tasks."

The team will assess the aircraft for the aircrew, starting with a pre-assessment survey asking where the crew experiences pain and what their issues with the aircraft are, for example. The aircraft will actually be on-site, as well, so the team will scan it with handheld 3-D scanners and use the modeling software they purchased.

"Everything is coming together, and we get to show why we did what we did," Williams said. "I asked people to trust me and said, 'If you let me do this, I will run with it. I will take responsibility, good or bad.' And we've ended up here. Our program is a truly valued asset. I'm really excited about what we've been able to achieve in such a short amount of time."

Ensuring the fallen are sent home with honor

By Staff Sgt. William Banton, 386th Air Expeditionary Wing Public Affairs



Members of the 387th Air Expeditionary Group Force Protection Flight practice the transfer of service members remains with an empty transfer case, at an undisclosed location in Southwest Asia, Oct. 13, 2017. (U.S. Air Force photo illustration by Staff Sgt. William Banton)

SOUTHWEST ASIA (AFNS) -- Senior Airman Edward Reta, 387th Air Expeditionary Group Force Protection Flight, remembers watching the C-17 Globemaster III as it taxied to its parking location at an undisclosed location in Southwest Asia.

Watching a tail ramp lower, he felt moved by the setting and circumstances as he was one of six Airmen from the 387th AEG Force Protection and 387th Civil Engineer Fire Department to come to attention.

Still, Reta was grateful to be part of a group that came together as they made their way on to an aircraft, in unison. They carefully moved the aircraft's most significant cargo, a transfer case with the remains of a fallen warrior, to a theater mortuary evacuation point truck waiting on the tarmac.

There is a heaviness that never becomes routine when dealing with loss of a life in today's warfighting environments, he says but also there is a reverence involved demonstrating how vital and distinctive it is to be helping get the fallen home safely.

"When a service member is involved it is a huge deal," Reta said. "It was emotional for me to actually be able to see it in person."

In a deployed environment, the process can bring in an additional set of emotions for the team and they have to learn to manage in their own ways while completing the mission with care.

"It's hard to disconnect yourself from the situation that is going on at the time," said Tech. Sgt. Cody Owens, force protection day shift lead. "It's hard to not getting emotional and just maintain your military bearing, while trying to pay homage to the fallen member."

On March 15, 2018 an HH-60 Pave Hawk helicopter crashed in western Iraq, killing all seven members on board. All of those service members passed through the 387th AEG, prior to returning home.

"At first it was difficult but I have learned to be able to separate myself from the event," Owens said. "I knew a bunch of people personally that knew them, so it kind of hit close to home."

"I've never experienced that; a lot of thoughts go through your head that this is real and that it can happen to anybody," Reta said. "Obviously the family and friends of the deceased goes through your head and then your thoughts are of your family and friends."

Upon returning from the theater of operations to the U. S., a solemn dignified transfer is conducted upon arrival at Dover Air Force Base, Delaware, when a Air Force carry team transfers the remains from the aircraft to a transfer vehicle to honor those who have given their lives in service to America. Fallen service members, however, have stops to locations like here along the way before they head home to their family.

Reta described this particular transfer as an honor, saying it was an experience he will be able to take with him to future transfers. The rest of the team echoed those sentiments.

"There's a lot of pride sending (Airmen) back home and (I have) torn feelings about it," Owens said. "I hate doing transfers but I'm also proud of what I get to do."