

Weather

Thursday  Foggy High 70°F Low 53°F	Friday  Mostly Cloudy High 75°F Low 58°F
Saturday  Mostly Cloudy High 76°F Low 60°F	Sunday  Rain High 73°F Low 43°F

Forecast provided by the 14th OSS Weather Flight

News Briefs

Command Cyber Readiness Inspection

The Defense Information Systems Agency will conduct a Command Cyber Readiness Inspection of Columbus Air Force Base, Mississippi, Dec. 14-18. The CCRI evaluates the base's cybersecurity posture and is mandated by Department of Defense to ensure Air Force networks are effectively secured.

Wing Newcomers Orientation

A Wing Newcomers Orientation is scheduled for 8 a.m. - 1 p.m. Dec. 15 in the Kaye Auditorium for newly arrived active-duty and civilian personnel.

Happy Christmas Fund Shop and Wrap

The Happy Christmas Fund Shop and Wrap is scheduled for Dec. 17. Shoppers will meet at Wal-Mart at 6 a.m. and wrappers will meet at the Youth Center Gymnasium at 8 a.m. A playgroup will be available at the Youth Center Gymnasium starting at 8 a.m. for volunteers who need childcare. It is \$5 per child. The Happy Fund provides clothing, school supplies and other necessities to approximately 350 underprivileged children in the Columbus area each year.

Inside



Feature 8

The 81st Fighter Squadron is highlighted in this week's feature.



U.S. Air Force photo/Airman 1st Class John Day

Dr. Story Musgrave, Retired NASA Astronaut, entrepreneur, Marine Corps Crew Chief and neurosurgeon, visited Columbus Air Force Base, Mississippi, Dec. 4 to speak to Airmen about his life. Musgrave detailed what he attributed to his success and explained his work philosophy to the attendees.

A 'Story' of excellence

Airman 1st Class John Day

14th Flying Training Wing Public Affairs

Dr. Story Musgrave, Retired NASA Astronaut, entrepreneur, Marine Corps Crew Chief and neurosurgeon, visited Columbus Air Force Base, Mississippi, Dec. 4 to speak to Team BLAZE on a broad spectrum of topics.

Musgrave's visit to Columbus AFB was made possible by the contributions of the 43rd Flying Training Squadron.

Throughout his presentation, he used photos from his collection as a photographer to help tell his story and drive home

his lessons for success.

Musgrave's uniting theme for his presentation is also an Air Force Core Value.

“Our topic today is excellence: being the best you can every second of the day,” Musgrave said. “It's how you design a life for yourself. Let's look at our playing field; T-1, T-6, T-38. Wherever you are, that is your playing field, and being excellent will put you on a lifelong path to perfection.”

He spoke about his life and the various trials, tribulations

See MUSGRAVE, Page 3

COLUMBUS AFB TRAINING TIMELINE

PHASE II				PHASE III				IFF				WING SORTIE BOARD			
Squadron	Senior Class	Squadron Overall	Track Select	Squadron	Senior Class	Squadron Overall	Graduation	Squadron	Senior Class	Squadron Overall	Graduation	Aircraft	Required	Flown	Annual
37th (16-11)	1.08 days	0.64 days	Dec. 14	48th (16-03)	-0.92 days	3.13 days	Dec. 18	49th (16-CBC)	0.05 days	0.59 days	Dec. 21	T-6	800	534	5,976
41st (16-12)	5.22 days	4.83 days	Jan. 20	50th (16-03)	0.06 days	3.50 days	Dec. 18					T-1	273	321	1,956
												T-38	252	315	1,962
												IFF	126	88	820

The graduation speaker is Col. James Fisher, 14th Flying Training Wing Vice Commander.

14TH FLYING TRAINING WING DEPLOYED

As of press time, 22 TEAM BLAZE members are deployed worldwide. Remember to support the Airmen and their families while they are away.



Everyday Network Practice

Physically control Common Access Card at all times and remind others to do the same



Never plug any unauthorized devices, cameras or smartphones into a system



Restart computer daily

Digitally sign emails IAW AFMAN 33-152

Wing IP: Lisa Pender 434-2603
Wing IO: Tiffany Sprinkle 434-3194

Columbus AFB Tax Center looking for volunteers

The Columbus AFB Tax Center will open in late January and is in need of volunteer tax preparers and assistants. All of our volunteers play a critical role in assisting service members, retirees, and dependents to complete and file their tax returns. This service helps our clients maximize their tax refunds. Volunteers with special skills or training are welcome, however no prior experience is required. Training will be provided on the latest tax preparation forms and software. To be an effective volunteer you should be able to file your own tax return, work with computers, learn new things, and enjoy working with people. For more information, please contact Capt. Luke McPherson in the legal office at 434-7030.

Silver Wings

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Submission Deadline

The deadline for submitting copy for next week's SILVER WINGS is noon Monday. Articles may be dropped off at the public affairs office or e-mailed.

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Submit all advertising to the Columbus, Miss., Commercial Dispatch advertising department one week prior to desired publication date. The advertising department can be reached at (662) 328-2427.

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat/Sun	Long Range Events
14 Command Cyber Readiness Inspection	15 Newcomers Orientation Brief, 8 a.m. @ Kaye Auditorium	16	17 Happy Christmas Fund Shop and Wrap; shopping 6-8 a.m., wrapping 8 a.m. @ Youth Center Gym	18 Santa Claus Shuffle 5K Fun Run, 7 a.m. @ Fitness Center SUPT Class 16-03 Graduation, 10 a.m. @ Kaye Auditorium 81st FS graduation @ Moody Air Force Base, Georgia	19/20	Dec. 29: CT fly day Dec. 31: AETC Family Day Jan. 1: New Year's Holiday Jan. 4: Safety Day Jan. 14: Martin Luther King Jr. Luncheon Jan. 18: Martin Luther King Jr. Day Holiday Jan. 22: SUPT Class 16-04 Graduation Jan. 29: Fourth Quarterly Awards Ceremony
21	22	23 SUPT holiday stand-down	24 AETC Family Day	25 Christmas Holiday	26/27	Jan. 29: Enlisted Promotions Feb. 2: Groundhog Day Feb. 5: Annual Awards Ceremony Feb. 12: POW Smitty Harris Repatriation (1973) Feb. 12-13: Bishop Neal Buckon visit Feb. 19: SUPT Class 16-05 Graduation Feb. 22: Presidents Day Holiday

MUSGRAVE

(Continued from page 1)

and successes he experienced. From every event in his life, he took a piece of that experience and turned it into a strength.

A product of child labor, Musgrave enlisted in the Marine Corps, became a master mechanic, tank operator, neurosurgeon, systems engineer, a pilot, an astronaut and everything in between.

"I learn by doing things and figuring it out," Musgrave said. "I am a radically pragmatic person. I find out what I've got to do to make this thing happen."

His particular brand of learning goes to show his passion for any subject he chose.

"When I joined NASA, I continued to work on airplanes," Musgrave said. "The way I understand airplanes is to take them apart and put them back together. Every time I see something I don't understand, I ask them to show me. I learned the T-38 inside and out on that hangar floor."

He learned about everything he could get ahold of and is passionate about being the best he can be.

"Give yourself to the system and that system is going to do what it does: educate," Musgrave said. "That's how you learn. Life is about the excitement of continuous learning. Never miss the opportunity for an aircraft, instructor or program to teach you something."

After working on his parent's farm and having many jobs through his young life, he joined the USMC. As a crew chief, he learned much about how to do things and to do them right.

"Doing things right is a concise process that involves procedures, checklists, standardizations, best practices, configuration control and continuous improvement," Musgrave said.

He encouraged the crowd to use their entire potential.

"It's all about perfection and getting things done the right way," Musgrave said. "There are a lot of reasons to be the best you can be. There is no stronger way to stay safe than to keep the phrase 'I've got to come home,' in your head."

Musgrave spoke about an instance where a commercial airliner crashed a flight before it even left the runway. He described the commercial pilot world as extremely professional, but attributed the accident to complacency and deviance.

"Complacency and deviance are my two big evils," Musgrave said. "There can be no complacency. We live in an unforgiving world. It does not matter if you've done things right 1,000 or 10,000 times in a row,

you can't miss once."

He said ownership and remaining vigilant helps to avoid mistakes like the mentioned airline accident.

"Own it," Musgrave said. "Be part of that business. Be passionate. Get in the game. Vigilance and awareness is how you stay in the game."

Musgrave related the path through life to a game or sport, albeit a complex game with high costs of failure.

"The world is a very complex system," Musgrave said. "Everything you do in life is a massive number of variables. Life is not simple, ever. You have to control these complex variables to get to that finish line."

As a man with many degrees in all different fields, he recommends to never limit oneself to a single area of expertise.

"Everything you ever did in life you have to leverage," Musgrave said. "You leverage it to your current life and ask yourself, 'How am I going to use this?'"

Musgrave's varied areas of knowledge drove him in different directions; directions he never saw coming.

"Folks, you are going to run into forks in the road," Musgrave said. "What you do is prepare for the unknown. People always ask me if I always wanted to be an astronaut. The answer is no. I did not want to be an astronaut at the time."

"Everything you do in life will prepare you for a life that you do not yet know. Just keep following down that path to perfection. You are developing that skillset to offer to a brand new world."

He spoke on leadership and teamwork and how those helped in all he did, particularly in piloting and neurosurgery.

"Comfort is a great word," Musgrave said. "When you are doing anything in a team setting, ask your teammates, your coworkers or your subordinates if they are comfortable. It empowers them to achieve greater heights."

Though he avoids emphasizing the possibility of failure, he noted it was important to deal with it if it does appear.

"We do anticipate life happens," Musgrave said. "Things are going to happen. Stay resilient and be ready for anything. Have a recovery process and be able to tolerate it when things get off the beaten path."

Musgrave left the audience with a powerful line and gratitude for allowing him to impart his wisdom.

"It isn't over until it's over," Musgrave said. "I wish you well on your journey, remember to pursue all opportunities and do it simply because the challenges lay there before you. Thank you so much for having me."

2015 Winter/Holiday Message from senior Air Force leaders

Deborah Lee James

Secretary of the Air Force

Gen. Mark Welsh

Air Force Chief of Staff,

and Chief Master Sgt. James Cody

Chief Master Sergeant of the Air Force

The winter holidays provide an opportunity to relax and celebrate with our families and friends. It's also an opportunity to re-establish a proper work-life balance by enjoying the seasonal festivities and activities.

We work diligently all year to reduce mishaps, and we should not ignore those efforts during the much-deserved break.

Sadly, last year we lost five Airmen in off-duty mishaps between 22 November and 2 January. Every Airman, uniformed and civilian, must take a few minutes to include sound risk management in his/her winter and holiday plans. The same risk management principles that keep us safe on duty are just as effective when traveling and enjoying recreational activities off duty.

Think through every plan and have a backup plan for contingencies. Pay close attention to weather conditions, remain vigilant, and maintain proper awareness of your surroundings.

Use your training and common sense to do the right thing. If you see someone in need, help them. If you're the one struggling, make the right choice and seek help from a friend, a supervisor, or a professional.

We are the best Air Force on the planet because of who we are, how we approach challenges, and what we do for our families and fellow Airmen. The Air Force and the Nation need every Airman to be ready and available to respond when and where called.

Your family, friends, and Nation depend on you to make safety a priority in your winter and holiday plans. While enjoying the season, take care of yourself and take care of each other.

Exchange shoppers can say 'hello Frisco' in latest sweepstakes

**Army & Air Force Exchange Service
Public Affairs**

This holiday season, Exchange shoppers have the chance to win a gift they'll never forget — an all-expense paid trip for two to San Francisco, California.

Through Dec. 24, shoppers can enter to win airline tickets, two nights in a local hotel, a meal allowance and spending money for their trip as part of the Ghirardelli Chocolate San Francisco Getaway Sweepstakes.

"For one lucky Exchange shopper, this will surely be a holiday to remember," said Air Force Chief Master Sgt. Sean Applegate, the Exchange's senior enlisted advisor. "Two nights and three days of first-class treatment in one of the world's famous cities -- talk about kicking off 2016 in style."

Authorized shoppers 18 and older are eligible to enter the Ghirardelli Chocolate San Francisco Getaway Sweepstakes at www.shopmyexchange.com/sweepstakes. The drawing will take place on or about Jan. 4. No purchase is necessary.

Visit us online! www.columbus.af.mil



U.S. Air Force photo/Airman 1st Class John Day

Columbus Air Force Base Spouses Club members gather several cookies into plastic bags for 14th Flying Training Wing Airmen Dec. 7 at Columbus Air Force Base, Mississippi. The cookies were later distributed to unaccompanied Airmen throughout the day. Thousands of cookies were donated by Columbus community members and local businesses.

Columbus Spouses' Club brings joy to sweet-toothed Airmen

14th Flying Training Wing
Public Affairs

The Columbus Spouses Club held a cookie drive Dec. 7 for Airmen across all squadrons of Columbus Air Force Base. Volunteers from the CSC and other base spouses took drive-by donations from local businesses, community members and spouses. Altogether, over 6,000 cookies in nearly 500 one-dozen bags were donated to single

Airmen across all base offices. Leftover bags were given to members of the Columbus Fire and Police Departments.

This year's cookie drive was put together by Kenley Corredor, CSC President and wife of Maj. Oscar Corredor, Aerospace Medicine Flight Commander.

"The CSC would like to thank the Youth Center for allowing us to use the location, the commissary for donating the bags and to everyone who donated to make this event possible," Kenley said.

14th Medical Group Corner: The dangers of oral piercings

Master Sgt. Jeremy Davis
14th Medical Operations Squadron
Dental Flight

It is common today to see kids walking around with an oral piercing, whether it is in the lip, the tongue, the cheek or that uniquely European 'between the teeth' ring. The fashion merits of this kind of jewelry are subject to debate, yet there is an insidious health consequence that should be considered before subjecting your tongue to a through-and-through jab with a needle of questionable cleanliness. Namely, these piercings can have serious effects upon an individual's well-being.

The human mouth is teeming with bacteria. We're talking billions of them. Any piercing can be considered a direct portal into the body, whereby these bacteria can enter and cause a potentially life-threatening infection. A swollen and infected tongue could block an airway, suffocating

the hapless pierced victim. Regardless of the experience of the person doing the piercing, any piercing can cause uncontrollable bleeding or permanent nerve damage.

Healing from any piercing can take upwards of six weeks. In the meantime, the pierced lip can result in significant swelling and pain. Once a pierced site has healed, you're not in the clear yet, as dislodged jewelry can be swallowed or lodged in your lungs. Moreover, chipped or cracked teeth are not uncommon and quite often these conditions are not restorable and the tooth must be extracted.

Jewelry worn in the mouth can hinder your ability to speak and can even make eating a challenge. Given the potential for unwanted trips to the emergency room or your friendly dentist, it becomes difficult to rationalize the "coolness" of a tongue ring. This is a decision that can have major consequences for your oral health.

Dorm Council holds bake sale to raise funds for 'lone' Airmen Christmas party



U.S. Air Force photo/Airman 1st Class John Day

Master Sgt. Jean Phillippe Guindon, 14th Communications Squadron, makes his selection of pastries after donating at the Dorm Council bake sale Dec. 9 at Columbus Air Force Base, Mississippi. The funds were raised to provide a Christmas party for the Airmen living in the dorms who are not able to visit family during the holiday.

DREAM

(Continued from page 12)

Weyand valued and what helped the team win bronze, behind Germany and the UK, in the women's tournament.

"Lieutenant Borg is one of the most amazing players and Airmen I have had the pleasure to coach," Weyand said. "As a player, she is a world-class goalkeeper — not only does she have the physical skills to play at the highest level, but what separates her is her on-and-off-field leadership, which goes unmatched. She has the ability to make people better, and as a result of that, the team wins."

While the tournament brought her back to a game she loves, it was also a chance to build international relations with militaries from five other countries: Germany, the UK, Holland, Belgium, and Poland. One of the goals of the Air Force Sports Program is to provide such an avenue to build upon those partnerships in the international community.

"We would get out there and play intense completion — you really whoop on each other — and then at the end of the night, it was, 'Let's share a beer and get to know and understand each other,'" Borg said.

"We're all part of the NATO alliance, which is the whole part of the tournament — to foster that relationship," she continued. "Let's get to know each other, so when we end up on a battlefield together, we have a better understanding of how each other works."

Moving forward, Borg said she will be attending tryouts in May for the Air Force women's soccer team as they train for the World Military Championships. But she won't forget how meaningful this opportunity was, giving her back a piece of herself and her dream.

"It was incredible to bring together women who were excited and intense about the game, a great environment and good coaching at the same time," she explained. "It was not only great playing again, but it allowed me to grow my knowledge as a soccer player, athlete and leader ... It was awesome and a really incredible experience I will never forget."



Courtesy photo /United Launch Alliance (For limited release)

The 45th Space Wing supports NASA's launch of Orbital ATK CRS-4, aboard a United Launch Alliance Atlas V rocket to the International Space Station from Space Launch Complex 41 at Cape Canaveral Air Force Station, Florida, Dec. 6, 2015. This will be the first flight of an enhanced Cygnus spacecraft to the ISS. Orbital ATK's fourth contracted cargo resupply mission with NASA to the ISS will deliver more than 7,000 pounds of science and research, crew supplies and vehicle hardware to the orbital laboratory and its crew.

45th Space Wing supports NASA launch

45th Space Wing Public Affairs

CAPE CANAVERAL AIR FORCE STATION, Fla. — The 45th Space Wing supported NASA's successful launch of Orbital ATK CRS-4, aboard a United Launch Alliance Atlas V rocket to the International Space Station from Space Launch Complex 41, Dec. 6.

This will be the first flight of an enhanced Cygnus spacecraft to the ISS. Orbital ATK's fourth contracted cargo resupply mission with NASA to the ISS will deliver more than 7,000 pounds of science and research, crew supplies and vehicle hardware to the orbital laboratory and its crew.

"I am proud of the integrated team who made our 16th launch of the year successful," said Brig. Gen. Wayne Monteith, the 45th SW

commander, who also served as the launch decision authority. "Additionally, the launch of this mission clearly demonstrates the successful collaboration our wing has with our partners at NASA Kennedy Space Center, the Space and Missile Systems Center and industry. Together we've shared a remarkable history of space exploration lasting more than half a century. In fact, since July 1950 this United Launch Alliance/Orbital ATK mission represents launch number 3,522 for this team. Our launch success today proves how decades of professional collaboration between the 45th SW, NASA, SMC, ULA and all of our other mission partners continues to shape the future of America's space operations. We are the world's premier gateway to space."

According to NASA, the Cygnus spacecraft

will carry hardware and supplies to support dozens of the approximately 250 science and research investigations that will occur during Expeditions 45 and 46.

Before any spacecraft can launch from Cape Canaveral Air Force Station, a combined team of military, government civilians and contractors from across the 45th SW provide the mission assurance to ensure a safe and successful liftoff for their range customers.

Eastern Range instrumentation provides radar tracking, telemetry, communications, command/control sites, camera and optical sites, and other support capabilities such as meteorology. Instrumentation is necessary to safely and successfully conduct civil, commercial, and national security spacelift operations and ballistic missile tests and evaluation.

Buckle up! It's the law.

Are you learning hard-earned lessons?

Lt. Col. Jeffrey Allison

14th Operations Group Deputy Commander

Last summer, President Barack Obama presented the Congressional Medal of Honor to Staff Sgt. Ryan Pitts for his actions on July 13, 2008, in the Waygal Valley of Afghanistan.

On that day, Pitts, along with 47 other Americans and 24 Afghan soldiers, defended Combat Outpost Kahler against an attacking force estimated at 200 or more. In approximately two hours of fighting, nine Americans were killed and another 27 were wounded.

There are many lessons we could derive from the battle, ranging from command and control, to tactical decision making and leadership, to the very principles of counter-insurgency warfare. We could learn quite a bit, in fact, about the application of airpower through Close Air Support, Intelligence Surveillance and Reconnaissance, Personnel Recovery, and more. Almost endless good could come from a thorough study of the fight at CoP Kahler. So much good, in fact, the U.S. Army conducted an exhaustive investigation and published

If you haven't yet become a student of military history, I think you should consider it. A few minutes of reading each day will make us all better warriors.

a comprehensive, publically available, report of its findings.

The real question though, is have we actually learned those lessons? Have we taken the time to read and internalize the report so we know what went wrong, what went right, and what we need to fix?

Though it is tremendously important, the battle at CoP Kahler is not unique. It is just one of a vast number of vignettes we can use to hone our skills. The Air Force operates in a joint and multi-national environment every day, and

the stakes are very, very high. Our partners rely on Air Force airpower to enhance their mission effectiveness and increase their survivability. They rely on airpower to come home alive.

As professional Airmen, we have a responsibility to seek out information and strive to understand as much about our operating environment and fellow warfighters as possible. We need to learn from the battles already fought so we can be more effective next time.

The U.S. Army Combat Studies Institute has a wealth of information and a vast number of historical scenarios to help us develop our breadth and depth of knowledge. Located online at usacac.army.mil/cac2/csi/csipubs.asp, it is one of many possible resources that we can utilize to continuously build upon our professional competence.

If you haven't yet become a student of military history, I think you should consider it. A few minutes of reading each day will make us all better warriors. A few minutes reading about the Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen and Marines who went before us will make us a more effective force. A few minutes of reading each day will help honor the sacrifices made in our name.



U.S. Air Force photo/Sean Kimmons

Two World War II veterans render a salute after laying a wreath during a Pearl Harbor remembrance ceremony at the National WWII Memorial on Dec. 7, 2015, in Washington, D.C.



U.S. Air Force photo/Sean Kimmons

Edward Davis, right, a 94-year-old Army veteran who witnessed the Japanese sneak attack on Hawaii, and Frank Livingston, a 110-year-old Army veteran believed to be the nation's oldest living World War II veteran, attend a Pearl Harbor remembrance ceremony at the National World War II Memorial on Dec. 7, 2015, in Washington, D.C.

Remembering Pearl Harbor: A 'body blow' to America

Sean Kimmons
Air Force News Service

WASHINGTON — When the first bombs exploded on a nearby airfield, marking the start of the Japanese sneak attack on the morning of Dec. 7, 1941, Edward Davis and others scrambled from a chow hall.

The 94-year-old Army veteran said he and other Soldiers were having breakfast at Schofield Barracks, Hawaii, when Japanese aircraft dive-bombed the adjacent Wheeler Army Airfield.

"We all ran outside and looked up at the sky to see what was going on," the retired first sergeant said before a Pearl Harbor remembrance ceremony Dec. 7 at the World War II Memorial.

At that point, a few Mitsubishi A6M Zero fighters roared over the Army base and fired at them, killing and injuring several Soldiers from his unit.

"I couldn't believe it," he said, recalling how the attacks stoked fears of a looming Japanese invasion. "It was an unbelievable tragedy."

The attacks on the island of Oahu eventually left more than 2,400 dead and almost 1,200 wounded as it catapulted the U.S. into the war.

"It dealt us a body blow that I think was a rude awakening to Americans," said Herb Durham, a former Army Air Corps pilot. "The war had started and as a young man I was eager to get in."

During the war, Durham, one of about 20 WWII veterans at the ceremony, said he had some scary moments in Europe

where he flew Republic P-47 Thunderbolt fighters.

One time while strafing German positions, a 20-mm round hit his canopy, causing shattered glass and shrapnel from the round to cut his face.

"I was lucky I had on my oxygen mask and goggles," he said of the March 1945 mission. "The doctor said I was lucky I didn't lose my left eye."

About a month later, Durham faced his biggest test when his aircraft was shot down behind enemy lines.

"I was dive-bombing a target and when I pulled off the target I got hit in the engine," the 91-year-old veteran recalled. "But I had a lot of air speed so I pulled up to about 6,000 feet and bailed out."

Durham was later caught by German soldiers who threw him in a prison camp. But a few weeks later, he said, the soldiers abandoned the camp as U.S. tanks approached it, freeing him and others.

In the Pacific Theater, former Marine Cpl. Ed Graham, who joined a dozen veterans on an honor flight from Texas for the ceremony, was sent to the tense Battle of Iwo Jima.

At first, Graham, 90, said he was part of a floating reserve until the battle turned fiercer than expected and ultimately had about 26,000 American casualties including 6,800 dead.

"We weren't supposed to go in but they tore them up so bad the first day," he said of how the Japanese forces pinned down his fellow Marines. "It was pretty bad for the whole crew."

Graham, assigned to the 3rd Marine Division, was later sent to the island to help purify water for combat-weary troops in the 36-day battle.

"All we had to worry about were mortars and snipers," he said.

But he and other troops received some motivation when U.S. troops raised the American flag on top of Mount Suribachi, which later became an iconic image of the war.

"I was on board the ship when they raised it and everybody clapped, yelled and screamed," he recalled. "It was quite a sight."

The attack on Pearl Harbor and the subsequent "a date which will live in infamy" speech by President Franklin D. Roosevelt inspired many young men to sign up and fight in the costly war, which left more than 400,000 American servicemen dead and forever shaped the world.

Navy veteran Ted Waller said he rushed to the recruiter's office following the attack.

"I went down the next day and tried to sign up but there were so many people there that they told us to go home until after Christmas so we could spend time with family," the 92-year-old veteran recalled. "I came back the day after (Christmas) and got sworn in."

Waller went on to take part in the world's first all-aircraft carrier naval clash, the Battle of the Coral Sea, and roughly a dozen other battles. He then witnessed the Japanese surrender some of its South Pacific territories while on board the USS Portland at Truk, Caroline Islands, on Sept. 2, 1945 — an event often overshadowed by Japan's surrender on the USS Missouri in Tokyo Bay, Japan, that same day.

"At the time it didn't mean anything, but now it does," he said of the formal surrender. "It was the beginning of changes in our American life."

December is GLOBAL HEALTH MONTH

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BLESSINGS of BLANKETS

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November 16-December 14

Blankets will be distributed to the following organizations:

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Contact Helpline
Safehaven

Community Resource Connection

Blankets may be dropped off to The Fitness Factor
Towne Square Center • Columbus

Call 327-6348 for more info

Security and policy review

Did you know that as a military member you must coordinate all information relating to speeches, presentations, academic papers, multimedia visual information materials and information proposed for release to a publicly accessible Worldwide Website, with exception of Air Force publications, through the 14th Flying Training Wing Public Affairs Office? For more information contact the 14th FTW/PA at 434-7068.

81st FS trains Afghan pilots, maintainers



U.S. Air Force Lt. Col. Jeffrey Hogan (right), 81st Fighter Squadron commander, and Col. John Nichols, 14th Flying Training Wing commander, stand at attention during an assumption of command ceremony Jan. 15, at Moody Air Force Base, Georgia.

Senior Airman Stephanie Englar
14th Flying Training Wing Public Affairs

Since the beginning of 2015, the 81st Fighter Squadron, the 14th Flying Training Wing's geographically separated unit, has been training Afghan pilots and maintainers at Moody Air Force Base, Georgia.

The mission of the squadron is to graduate on-time, combat-ready attack pilots and maintenance professionals for the Afghan air force. The squadron will grow to 20 A-29 Super Tucano aircraft that will be used to train 30 Afghan pilots and 90 maintain-

"The mission is about the future of air power in Afghanistan," said Col. John Nichols, 14th Flying Training Wing Commander. "More than 12 years of blood, sweat and tears were spent getting us to this day."

ers at Moody through 2018.

"The mission is about the future of air power in Afghanistan," said Col. John Nichols, 14th Flying

Training Wing Commander. "More than 12 years of blood, sweat and tears were spent getting us to this day."

The 81st Fighter Squadron conducts combat training for Afghan Air Force pilots and maintainers in the A-29 Super Tucano. It is a unique organization comprised of Air Advisor Pilots, Air Advisor Maintainers and support personnel who conduct training for the Afghan Air Force. This training includes basic and advanced tactical employment of the A-29 to Afghan pilots, maintenance training and support mission training.

The first class of pilots and maintainers are scheduled to graduate Dec. 18. Following graduation, they will return to Afghanistan where they will use the skills they have acquired here to support their country's military against terrorist threats.



U.S. Air Force photo/Airman 1st Class Rose Gudex

Two pilots from the 81st Fighter Squadron out of Moody Air Force Base, Georgia, and an Afghan pilot walk to several A-29B Super Tucanos to prepare for high-altitude training Sept. 16, at Peterson Air Force Base, Colorado. Four Afghan pilots have been training with the 81st FS on the aircraft since January in Georgia and came to Peterson to experience high-altitude and mountainous terrain. After completing their training in the U.S., both the American and Afghan pilots will go to Afghanistan to help establish fighter squadrons.



U.S. Air Force photo by Senior Airman Ryan Callaghan/Released

An A-29 Super Tucano assigned to the 81st Fighter Squadron sits on the flightline Jan. 8, at Moody Air Force Base, Georgia. At the completion of Moody's Afghan pilot and maintenance training mission, the aircraft is set to provide an air-to-ground capability to the Afghan Air Force.



U.S. Air Force photo by Senior Airman Ryan Callaghan/Released

An 81st Fighter Squadron pilot starts the engine in an A-29 Super Tucano Jan. 8, at Moody Air Force Base, Georgia. The A-29 is a turboprop aircraft designed for light air support (LAS) and will be used to support the Afghan LAS training mission at Moody.



U.S. Air Force photo by Senior Airman Ryan Callaghan/Released

An 81st Fighter Squadron pilot prepares the cockpit of an A-29 Super Tucano for a flight Jan. 8, at Moody Air Force Base, Georgia. Afghan student pilots and maintainers are scheduled to begin training on the aircraft in February as part of the light air support training mission.