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Vol. 40, Issue 28

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Sunday PM Thunderstorms High 91°F Low 72°F	Monday Partly Cloudy High 94°F Low 74°F
Forecast provided by the 14 th OSS Weather Flight	

News Briefs

Wing Newcomers Orientation

A Wing Newcomers Orientation is scheduled for 8 a.m. - 1 p.m. July 19 at the Columbus Club for newly arrived active-duty and civilian personnel.

14th MDOS Change of Command

The 14th Medical Operations Squadron is hosting a Change of Command ceremony at 10:14 a.m. July 21 at the Columbus Club.

14th FTW Change of Command

The 14th Flying Training Wing is hosting a Change of Command ceremony at 9:14 a.m. July 22 at the Fire Station where Col. John Nichols will relinquish command to Col. Douglas Gosmeyer.

Inside



Feature 8

The REDHORSE construction is highlighted in this week's feature.

Lawrie takes the 14th OG reigns

14th Flying Training Wing Public Affairs

Team BLAZE welcomes Col. Stan Lawrie as the 14th Operations Group Commander.

Col. John Nichols, 14th Flying Training Wing Commander, handed Lawrie the reigns during a change of command ceremony July 15 at the McAllister Fire Station.

The 14th OG conducts pilot training and Introduction to Fighter Fundamentals for more than 400 U.S. Air Force and international officers each year, using a fleet of 234 T-6A, T-38C and T-1A aircraft and 27 flight simulators at Columbus. In addition, the group directs the tactical training for Afghan pilots and maintenance members utilizing the A-29 Super Tucano at Moody AFB, Georgia.

The 81st Fighter Squadron at Moody was activated in January 2015 and will grow to 20 A-29 Super Tucano aircraft that will be used to train 30 Afghan pilots and 90 maintainers through 2018. They will support air-to-ground fires and aerial reconnaissance in support of Afghan National Security Force operations.

The 14th Operations Group also oversees an air traffic control complex with over 300,000 aircraft movements annually. His command includes eight squadrons and over 1,300 officers, civilians, enlisted and contract personnel.

After being commissioned from the U.S. Air Force Academy in 1994, Lawrie attended intelligence officer training at Goodfellow Air Force Base, Texas. He was assigned to HQ Air Force Materiel Command, Wright Patterson AFB, Ohio, and served as a Foreign Materiel Acquisition officer where he was selected to assist the map building team for the Dayton Peace Talks in support of the Bosnian conflict.

After competing for and being accepted to cross-train, he attended Joint Specialized Undergraduate Pilot Training at Vance AFB, Oklahoma. He was assigned to MacDill AFB, Florida, where he earned his instructor qualification. He has since served as an instructor and evaluator pilot in the KC-135 at Altus AFB, Oklahoma, as the Chief of Training and Wing Executive Officer.

As a member of the first Political Affairs Specialist class, he was assigned to the Royal Joint Services Command and Staff College. Upon graduating, he was assigned as an exchange officer to the Royal Air Force as the Chief of Combat Support for the United Kingdom's Joint Force Air Component Command



Col. Stan Lawrie
14th Operations Group Commander

Headquarters.

He moved to McConnell AFB, Kansas, where he was assigned as the Chief of Safety. As CoS, he deployed to Manas AB, Kyrgyzstan, where he oversaw the safe expansion of the Northern Gateway into Afghanistan. Following his tour, he took command of the 384th Air Refueling Squadron and led his squadron through a tumultuous period of military operations supporting warfighters on three fronts and was awarded the Spaatz Trophy, recognizing him as the best Air Refueling Squadron in the Air Force in 2011.

During his second year of command, he was selected to command the 340th EARS at Al Udeid AB, Qatar, for a brief period during a projected absence of the assigned commander.

See LAWRIE, Page 2

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 (17-06)	1.74 days	-0.27 days	Aug. 12	48th (16-12)	-1.20 days	-0.05 days	July 15	49th (16-JBC)	-0.03 days	-0.45 days	July 27	T-6	917	950	24,057
41st (17-05)	1.82 days	1.02 days	July 22	50th (16-12)	1.25 days	1.78 days	July 15	* Mission numbers provided by 14 FTW Wing Scheduling.				T-1	315	225	7,932
The graduation speaker is Brig. Gen. Andrew Croft, Director of Plans, Programs, Requirements and Assessments, Headquarters Air Education and Training Command, Joint Base San Antonio-Randolph, Texas.												T-38	296	320	8,254
												IFF	145	149	3,364



14TH FLYING TRAINING WING DEPLOYED

As of press time, 49 TEAM BLAZE members are deployed worldwide. Remember to support the Airmen and their families while they are away.

Deployment numbers provided by the Installation Personnel Readiness Office.

LAWRIE
(Continued from page 1)

ASSIGNMENTS

1. Oct 1994 - Jun 1995, Student, Intelligence Officer Training, Goodfellow AFB, Texas
2. Jul 1995 – Apr 1998, Foreign Materiel Acquisition, Intel Applications Officer, HQ AFMC, Wright Patterson AFB, Ohio
3. May 1998 – May 1999, Student, Undergraduate Pilot Training, Vance AFB, Oklahoma
4. Jul 1999 - Oct 1999, KC-135 Copilot Initial Qual Training, Altus AFB, Oklahoma
5. Oct 1999 – Oct 2000, Standardization/Evaluation Copilot, 91st ARS, MacDill AFB, Florida
6. Oct 2000 - Jan 2002, KC-135 Aircraft Commander, Assistant Chief Training, 91st ARS, MacDill AFB, Florida
7. Feb 2002 - May 2002, Wing Scheduler, 6th Operations Support Squadron, MacDill AFB, Florida
8. May 2002 - Jun 2003, 6th Operations Group Exec Officer, KC-135 Instructor Pilot, MacDill AFB, Florida
9. Sept 2003 – May 2004, Assistant Chief of Training, KC-135 Combat Crew Training School Instructor Pilot, 54th ARS, Altus AFB, Oklahoma

10. May 2004 - May 2005, Chief of Training, KC-135 Instructor/Evaluator, 54 ARS, Altus AFB, Oklahoma
11. May 2005 – Jun 2006, Wing Executive Officer, KC-135 Evaluator Plt, 97 AMW, Altus AFB, Oklahoma
12. Jul 2006 – Jul 2007, Student, Royal Joint Services, Advanced Command and Staff College, UK
13. Jul 2007 – Jul 2008, RAF Chief of Combat Support, United Kingdom Joint Force Air Component Command Headquarters, High Wycombe, UK
14. Jul 2008 - December 2009, RAF Chief of Strategy, United Kingdom Joint Force Air Component Command Headquarters, High Wycombe, UK
15. Dec 2009 – Mar 2011, Chief of Safety, 22nd ARW, McConnell AFB, Kansas
16. Mar 2011 – May 2013, Commander, 384th ARS, McConnell ARB, Kansas (Apr 2012 – May 2012, Commander, 340 EARS, Al Udeid AB, Qatar)
18. May 2013 – May 2015, Commander, Cadet Group 4, Commandant of Cadets, USAFA, Colorado
19. July 2015 – May 2016, Student Air War College, Grand Strategy Seminar, Maxwell AFB, Alabama
20. July 2016 – present, Commander, 14th Operations Group

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How to reach us

14th Flying Training Wing Public Affairs
555 Seventh Street, Suite 210,
Columbus AFB, MS, 39710
Commercial: (662) 434-7068
DSN: 742-7068
Fax: (662) 434-7009
E-mail: silverwings@us.af.mil

Editorial Staff

Col. John Nichols
14th Flying Training Wing
Commander

Mr. Sonic Johnson
Chief of Public Affairs

Senior Airman Kaleb Snay
Editor

Airman 1st Class John Day
Staff Writer

Mrs. Tina Perry
Layout Designer

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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July 29
The town of Artesia is set to kick off Artesia Days annual family fun event from noon-4 p.m., in downtown Artesia. Enjoy the game truck, water slide, and free school supplies and food for the children. For more information go online at visitcolumbusms.org.

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Nichols emphasizes teamwork as final graduation speech

Airman 1st Class John Day
14th Flying Training Wing
Public Affairs

At his very last Specialized Undergraduate Pilot Training Graduation, Col. John Nichols, 14th Flying Training Wing Commander, Columbus Air Force Base, Mississippi, spoke at SUPT Class 16-11's graduation July 8 at the Kaye Auditorium.

After his introduction by Col. James Boster, 14th Operations Group Commander, Nichols began by thanking those in attendance.

"It is my distinct honor to be with you this morning to serve as SUPT Class 16-11's graduation speaker," Nichols said. "Thanks for that opportunity. I will use this opportunity to speak to this class; hopefully you will remember at least that you were trained here at Columbus AFB, the best place on earth."

He went on to highlight not the speech he was to give, but the accomplishments of the graduates and those who supported them through the 54 weeks of training.

“This day is not about any graduation speech I was alluding to earlier or even about the speaker,” Nichols said. “It’s about celebrating you folk’s accomplishments over the last 54 weeks with friends family, loved ones, relatives, classmates and fellow warriors in the room. It is also about reflection on what you will be doing for the United States Air Force.”

“Service in today’s United States Air Force is absolutely a team sport; nobody gets here on your own,” Nichols said. “I want to extend a heartfelt thank you particularly to any spouses, parents and grandparents in the room. Your contributions to this year are im-



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

At his very last Specialized Undergraduate Pilot Training Graduation, Col. John Nichols, 14th Flying Training Wing Commander, Columbus Air Force Base, Mississippi, speaks as the speaker for SUPT Class 16-11's graduation July 8 at the Kaye Auditorium. Nichols spoke about three things he felt were important to not only to the new graduates but also to all others in attendance.

measurable.”

Nichols told the graduates of the challenges they would face but emphasized that after training, they would soon be directly involved with their specific mission and would face the enemy sooner than they thought.

"This is merely step one," he said. "You will go on to face a bunch of different challenges. Some of you will go on to Introduction to Fighter Fundamentals, others will go their B-Course, but eventually all of you will

get to a combat ready status where you will deploy forward and do great things for our Air Force and our country.”

He explained why our Air Force is the best in the world and how great it is to be a part of something bigger than one individual.

"We are the world's greatest Air Force because Airmen are intelligent, innovative, driven and they are very capable," Nichols said. "We are a collective team that looks to new frontiers. It is never just about you."

"Service in today's United States Air Force is absolutely a team sport; nobody gets here on your own," Nichols said.

It's about our great nation, about our international officers, about our Air Force Core Values, units, mission, the Airmen who came before you and the Airmen that you will one day lead."

Nichols inspired the young pilots to be leaders, what that means and the importance of leadership.

“Leadership is a gift given by those who follow,” he said. “Lead by setting a professional example on and off duty. Lead by getting to know your people. Lead by not walking past a problem without fixing it. Lead with passion. Be a leader to everyone because it is the strength of the entire team that defines our success.”

He finished his last graduation by expressing his pride over being able to serve as the 14th FTW Commander and wished the graduates the best of luck.

“Class 16-11, I am very proud to have served with you over these last two years and proud to be your wing commander,” Nichols said. “I wish you great luck in your careers and good hunting down range. May God bless our families; may God bless our friends, but because we won’t, may God have mercy on our enemies.”

Career Intermission Program allows Airmen temporary transition

14th Force Support Squadron

The Career Intermission Program allows selected Airmen to complete schooling or handle personal business and still have the opportunity to return to the military, right where they left off.

The purpose of this program is to provide select Airmen the opportunity for a one-time temporary transition from active duty to the Individual Ready Reserve for up to three years to pursue personal or professional needs outside the service while providing a mechanism for seamless return to active duty.

CIP participants are ineligible for promotion consideration and upon return to active duty their date of rank will

be adjusted by the number of days of CIP participation. The number of days of CIP participation do not count toward eligibility for retirement, transfer to the Ready Reserve, computation of retired or retainer pay, computation of officer's total years of service or years of aviation service.

CIP participants are also ineligible for tuition assistance benefits. CIP participants will not receive special or incentive pay or bonus to which they would otherwise be entitled.

Things to expect:

■ Monthly stipend equal to one-fifteenth of their basic pay.

- Full active-duty health care benefits for themselves and dependents.


- Travel and transportation allowances to one home of selection in the U.S. designated as their residence during CIP participation and travel from HOS to their assignment upon return to active duty.

■ Upon return to active duty, CIP participants will incur an active duty service commitment/reserve service commitment of two months for each month of program participation.

■ CY16 Applications will be accepted from July 12 through Sept. 12, 2016. The application is available through myPers.

For more information or to start submitting your request, contact Airman 1st Class Kyle Beath at 434-3191 or Staff Sgt. Evan Compton at 3190.

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Nichols names his two Wingmen at dinner



U.S. Air Force photo/Sonic Johnson
Col. John Nichols, 14th Flying Training Wing Commander, center, stands on July 12 with Joey Bragg, left, and Mark Smith, right, the two newest Columbus Wingmen Award recipients at the Columbus Club on Columbus Air Force Base, Mississippi. The Columbus Wingman Award is an honorary designation that recognizes outstanding members of the community who have made exceptional contributions to the base during Nichols' tenure.

Air Force changes utility allowance for privatized housing residents

Allen Reed
14th Civil Engineer Squadron Installation Management Flight Chief

The Air Force revised its Utility Allowance policy to ensure quality on-base housing for military families and to continue to cover utility costs for the average energy consumer.

The revised policy will now be calculated using monthly meter readings with no buffer, instead of the five-year rolling average with a 10-percent buffer the previous policy used.

In order to ease the transition to the new calculation, current occupants at Columbus Air Force Base will continue to receive the 10-percent buffer until June 30, 2017, or until they move out of their current privatized home, whichever comes first.

Under the former policy, military privatized housing projects spent hundreds of thousands of dollars annually on rebates that went to residents whose actual energy consumption rates were above average. This meant, Air Force-wide, privatized housing income went toward above-average rebates

each year, diverting funds from key program features like maintenance support, housing modernization and community amenities.

Under the new policy, the utility allowance will still be determined by the average consumption rates of homes assembled in "like-type" groups at every installation, and will still be carved out of basic allowance for housing. The new policy also still supports the rebate system. However, the rebates will only go to those users who fall below the average user rate and a bill will be generated for users who exceed the average user rate.

The Air Force estimates 75 percent of residents will be within \$8 of the allowance. The new policy empowers residents in privatized housing to manage their energy consumption, much like their off-base counterparts, and rewards those who are more energy conscious. The intent has always been to promote energy conservation by rewarding residents with less-than-average energy consumption through rebates. The new policy allows the Air Force to better meet that intent.

Area sales tax holiday

Mississippi Sales Tax Holiday

The annual Sales Tax Holiday for Mississippi begins 12:01 a.m. July 29 and ends midnight July 30. The items exempt from sales tax during the Sales Tax Holiday are identical to those items exempt in prior years such as clothing and footwear items, meant to be worn and cost less than \$100 per item. Accessories such as jewelry, handbags, wallets, watches, backpacks, and similar items do not qualify for the Sales Tax Holiday. Cleats and items worn in conjunction with an athletic or recreational activity are other sample items not eligible. School supplies and computers are not included.

For more information visit

dor.ms.gov/Business/Documents/2016%20Sales%20Tax%20Holiday.pdf.

Alabama Sales Tax Holiday

The annual Sales Tax Holiday for Alabama begins 12:01 a.m. CST Aug. 5 and ends midnight Aug. 7. Alabama will give shoppers the opportunity to purchase certain school supplies, computers and clothing free of state sales or use tax. Retailers are required to participate and may not charge tax on items that are legally tax-exempt during the Sales Tax Holiday.

For more information visit revenue.alabama.gov/salestax/SalesTaxHol.cfm.



Airmen face off in F-35 weapons load competition

Senior Airman Stormy Archer
33rd Fighter Wing Public Affairs

EGLIN AIR FORCE BASE, Fla. — Members of the 33rd Aircraft Maintenance Squadron competed in a quarterly weapons load competition and dedicated crew chief competition here today.

The load crew competition showcased the efficiency of load crew teams to safely and properly arm an F-35 within time constraints. The ability to quickly and safely load an aircraft with munitions is integral to provide combat-ready jets to combatant commanders.

"Being able to recognize the hard work of our Airmen makes good units great," Col. Ronald Huzzard, 33rd Maintenance Group commander, said. "Thank you all for putting the hard work, time, energy and effort it took to get us to where we've gotten today."

The winners of the weapons load competition were Staff Sgt. Brody Bundy, 33rd AMXS weapons load crew team chief, Airman 1st Class Tyler Hayden and Airman Dylan Snead, 33rd AMXS weapons load crew members. Winners of the dedicated crew chief competition were 33rd AMXS F-35 crew chiefs Staff Sgt. Dustin Smith and Senior Airman Paul Jeffrey.



U.S. Air Force photos by Senior Airman Stormy Archer/Released
Airman 1st Class Tyler Hayden, 33rd Aircraft Maintenance Squadron weapons load crew member, and Staff Sgt. Brody Bundy, 33rd AMXS weapons load crew team chief, assemble a GBU-12 during a weapons load competition July 8, 2016, at Eglin Air Force Base, Florida. The load crew competition showcased the efficiency of load crew teams to safely and properly arm an F-35 within time constraints.

"When a weapons load crew team comes together and they can complete a load with zero errors and with minimal verbal commands, it is the epitome of team work," Senior Master Sgt. Jennifer Dunn, 33rd Maintenance Group wing weapons manager, said.

"This is a very satisfying experience that a lot of hard work went into," Snead said. "It's great to get a chance to do what we train for."

The competition tested the Airmen with a uniform inspection, tool box inspection, a written test on loading operations and safety and their skill to load munitions in a safe and timely manner into the internal weapons bay of an F-35.

"When a weapons load crew team comes together and they can complete

a load with zero errors and with minimal verbal commands, it is the epitome of team work," Senior Master Sgt. Jennifer Dunn, 33rd Maintenance Group wing weapons manager, said. "When we perform, it show-

cases the pinnacle of our crew's ability to load combat ready aircraft."

By winning the quarterly load crew competition, the crew has secured a spot in the annual load crew competition in January.



Staff Sgt. Mark Mihacsi, 33rd Aircraft Maintenance Squadron weapons load crew team chief and Senior Airman Danielle Gschwendner, 33rd AMXS weapons load crew member load a GBU-12 on to a jammer during a weapons load competition July 8, 2016, at Eglin Air Force Base, Florida. The load crew competition showcased the efficiency of load crew teams to safely and properly arm an F-35 within time constraints.



Senior Airman Danielle Gschwendner, 33rd Aircraft Maintenance Squadron load crew member, drives a jammer during a weapons load crew competition July 8, 2016, at Eglin Air Force Base, Florida. The load crew competition showcased the efficiency of load crew teams to safely and properly arm an F-35 within time constraints.

Former AF chief of staff recognized for analysis legacy

Tech. Sgt. Joshua L. DeMotts
Secretary of the Air Force Public Affairs Command Information

WASHINGTON — Former Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. John P. Jumper was honored for his analysis work with the Lt. Gen. Glenn A. Kent Leadership Award, presented by Kevin Williams, the director of Air Force Studies, Analyses and Assessments, during a July 11 ceremony at the Pentagon. The Kent award recognizes influential leaders who've had substantive analytic responsibilities during their career and whose vision and leadership have had a significant and lasting effect on the achievements of Air Force analysis.

According to the award citation, Jumper revitalized the Air Force Studies and Analyses Agency's relevance with bold and visionary actions that led to the elevation of the agency to an air staff directorate -- Air Force A9. Jumper's advocacy for analyses factored prominently in decision-making and his vision for enhancing the analytical capability in the Air Force will continue to have impact for years to come.

"While the world changed forever after 9/11, you (Gen. Jumper) embarked on a course that would re-energize the Air Force

analytic community to bring gold standard, decision quality analysis to senior leaders," Williams said. "Thank you Gen. Jumper for all you have done for Air Force studies and analyses and specifically for setting the conditions for success we enjoy to this day."

Serendipitously, Jumper received the very award he created to honor Kent's legacy to serve as inspiration for others to follow.

"I think it is imperative we have hard-core, fact-based analysis to be able to present for what we believe and what we think, and it's backed up by the sort of strategy and concept of operations that are important and relevant to the type of war we are fighting today," Jumper said. "If we're still arguing for platforms because we've lost the argument for the previous ten years but the idea of this platform was gone five years ago, then we're fighting the wrong fight."

Jumper closed his remarks and the ceremony by thanking those in attendance, many of whom prominent members of the analytics community, before he quoted his mentor.

"Going back to the days of Kent, he would've said, 'Let's go get ourselves a case, let's analyze it and present the facts,' and that's what I believe," he said.



Kevin Williams, the director of Air Force Studies, Analyses and Assessments, presents the Lt. Gen. Glenn A. Kent Leadership Award to former Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. John P. Jumper at the Pentagon on June 11, 2016. The Kent award recognizes influential leaders who've had substantive analytic responsibilities during their career and whose vision and leadership have had a significant and lasting effect on the achievements of Air Force analysis.

Carter announces 560 US troops to deploy to Iraq

Department of Defense Press Operations

WASHINGTON — Secretary of Defense Ash Carter met with Iraqi Prime Minister Haider al-Abadi and other Iraqi leaders in Baghdad on July 11. He commended them for the recent progress in the fight against the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant, including the capture of a strategic airfield near the town of Qayyarah that will aid operations to free Mosul.

"With the retaking of Qayyarah West airfield, the Iraqi security forces have once again demonstrated a serious will to fight," Carter said. "I congratulate them on their recent successes and reaffirm that the United States, along with our coalition partners, will continue to do all we can to support Iraq's effort to serve ISIL a lasting defeat."

In his meetings with Iraqi leaders, coalition commanders and U.S. troops, Carter also discussed the next steps in the military campaign. In light of Iraqi security forces recent advances, Carter announced that the United States, in close coordination with the Iraqi government, will deploy an additional 560 troops to Iraq to build on that momentum. The additional troops will provide a range of support for

Iraqi security forces, including infrastructure and logistical capabilities at the airfield near Qayyarah. As the campaign shifts toward Mosul, more than 250 miles from the Iraqi capital, the airfield will become a vital springboard for the ISF offensive into Mosul. Coalition forces will also continue to provide enabler support to Kurdish Peshmerga as they converge on Mosul from Iraq's north.

President Obama approved the additional forces on Carter's recommendation after consulting with Marine Corps Gen. Joseph Dunford, the Joint Chiefs of Staff chairman; Army Gen. Joseph Votel, the U.S. Central Command commander; and Army Lt. Gen. Sean MacFarland, the commander of Operation Inherent Resolve.

"At every step in this campaign, we have generated and seized additional opportunities to hasten ISIL's lasting defeat," Carter said. "These additional U.S. forces will bring unique capabilities to the campaign and provide critical enabler support to Iraqi forces at a key moment in the fight."

In his meeting with the prime minister, Carter also expressed his condolences for the recent tragic bombing in Baghdad. He said the United States is prepared to bolster its support for Iraqi government efforts to protect Iraqi civilians

from ISIL terror attacks. U.S. forces already share intelligence and with their Iraqi counterparts. Carter said he is directing the Joint Improvised-Threat Defeat Agency, which leads the department's efforts to counter improvised explosive devices, to provide additional assistance that could enhance security in Baghdad.

Carter's visit comes as the international coalition has intensified pressure on ISIL in both Iraq and Syria. In addition to the capture of the air base at Qayyarah, Iraqi forces backed by coalition airpower and other support recently freed the city of Fallujah from ISIL's control after previous gains in Ramadi, Hit and Rutbah. In Syria, local forces backed by the coalition have surrounded the city of Manbij, a hub for the flow of ISIL foreign fighters. Carter said the U.S. is also prepared to step up its efforts to help vetted Syrian forces willing to take on ISIL.

To ensure ISIL's defeat is truly lasting, the secretary stressed throughout the visit the need for economic aid and reconstruction efforts to keep pace with progress in the military campaign. He closed his trip to Iraq, his fourth as secretary of defense, by thanking U.S. troops for their dedication, sacrifice and willingness to keep the U.S. safe.

Hill assumes command of 81st FS



U.S. Air Force photo

Col. James Boster, 14th Operations Group Commander, passes the 81st Fighter Squadron guidon to Lt. Col. Ryan Hill, the new 81st FS Commander, during a change of command ceremony July 7 at Moody Air Force Base, Georgia. This marks the first change of command for the 81st FS since being reactivated Jan. 15, 2015. The 81st FS is a geographically separated unit of the 14th Flying Training Wing, and tenant unit on Moody AFB. The 81st FS is responsible for the training of Afghan pilots and maintainers in the A-29 Super Tucano.

*Lt. Col. Ryan Hill was incorrectly recognized in the previous issue. We apologize for any inconvenience.

Baggott takes command of 14th MDSS



U.S. Air Force photo/Melissa Doublin

Col. Imelda Reedy, 14th Medical Group Commander, passes the 14th Medical Support Squadron guidon to Lt. Col. Jennifer Baggott, the new 14th MDSS Commander, during a change of command ceremony July 1 at Columbus Air Force Base, Mississippi.

*Lt. Col. Jennifer Baggott's squadron was incorrectly identified in the previous issue. We apologize for any inconvenience.

MILITARY AND FAMILY LIFE COUNSELOR PROGRAM

Military families face unique challenges. They may struggle with issues such as deployment-related stress, reintegration and pressures of managing parenting and finances while a loved one is deployed.

To support military families facing these or additional challenges, the MFLC program:

- Provides short-term, non-medical counseling services to service members and their families at no cost
- Provides psycho-education to help military service members and their families understand the impact of deployments, family reunions following deployments and other stresses related to the military life
- Augments existing military support services
- Offers flexible service delivery
- Can provide services on or off of military installations
- Can provide services to individuals, couples, families and groups

With the exception of child abuse, domestic abuse and duty to warn situations services are private and confidential.

MFLC

Military & Family Life Counselor Program

For more information, call (662) 364-0504

ABOUT MILITARY AND FAMILY LIFE COUNSELORS

- Masters or Doctorate-level licensed counselors
- Work with families, individuals, couples and children
- Work with existing military and family support programs to complement services provided

NON-MEDICAL COUNSELING SERVICES

Life skills

- Anger management
- Communication
- Relationship issues
- Conflict resolution
- Parenting
- Decision-making skills

Military lifestyle

- Deployment stress
- Coping skills
- Homesickness
- Relocation adjustment
- Reintegration
- Separation
- Building resiliency
- Sadness, grief and loss



BLAZE Hangar Tails: U-2S Dragon Lady

Mission

The U-2S Dragon Lady provides high-altitude, all-weather surveillance and reconnaissance, day or night, in direct support of U.S. and allied forces. It delivers critical imagery and signals intelligence to decision makers throughout all phases of conflict, including peacetime indications and warnings, low-intensity conflict, and large-scale hostilities.

Features

The U-2S is a single-seat, single-engine, high-altitude/near space reconnaissance and surveillance aircraft providing signals, imagery, and electronic measurements and signature intelligence, or MASINT. Long and narrow wings give the U-2 glider-like characteristics and allow it to quickly lift heavy sensor payloads to unmatched altitudes, keeping them there for extended periods of time. The U-2 is capable of gathering a variety of imagery, including multi-spectral electro-optic, infrared, and synthetic aperture radar products which can be stored or sent to ground exploitation centers. In addition, it also supports high-resolution, broad-area synoptic coverage provided by the optical bar camera producing traditional film products which are developed and analyzed after landing.

Routinely flown at altitudes over 70,000 feet, the U-2 pilot must wear a full pressure suit similar to those worn by astronauts. The low-altitude handling characteristics of the

aircraft and bicycle-type landing gear require precise control inputs during landing; forward visibility is also limited due to the extended aircraft nose and “taildragger” configuration. A second U-2 pilot normally “chases” each landing in a high-performance vehicle, assisting the pilot by providing radio inputs for altitude and runway alignment. These characteristics combine to earn the U-2 a widely accepted title as the most difficult aircraft in the world to fly.

The U-2 is powered by a lightweight, fuel efficient General Electric F118-101 engine, which negates the need for air refueling on long duration missions. The U-2S Block 10 electrical system upgrade replaced legacy wiring with advanced fiber-optic technology and lowered the overall electronic noise signature to provide a quieter platform for the newest generation of sensors.

Background

Built in complete secrecy by Kelly Johnson and the Lockheed Skunk Works, the original U-2A first flew in August 1955. Early flights over the Soviet Union in the late 1950s provided the president and other U.S. decision makers with key intelligence on Soviet military capability. In October 1962, the U-2 photographed the buildup of Soviet offensive nuclear missiles in Cuba, touching off the Cuban Missile Crisis. In more recent times, the U-2 has provided intelligence during operations in Korea, the Balkans, Afghanistan, and

Iraq. When requested, the U-2 also provides peacetime reconnaissance in support of disaster relief from floods, earthquakes, and forest fires as well as search and rescue operations.

General characteristics

- Primary function:** high-altitude reconnaissance
- Contractor:** Lockheed Martin Aeronautics
- Power plant:** one General Electric F118-101 engine
- Thrust:** 17,000 pounds
- Wingspan:** 105 feet (32 meters)
- Length:** 63 feet (19.2 meters)
- Height:** 16 feet (4.8 meters)
- Weight:** 16,000 pounds
- Maximum takeoff weight:** 40,000 pounds (18,000 kilograms)
- Fuel capacity:** 2,950 gallons
- Payload:** 5,000 pounds
- Speed:** 410 mph
- Range:** more than 7,000 miles (6,090 nautical miles)
- Ceiling:** above 70,000 feet (21,212+ meters)
- Crew:** one (two in trainer models)
- Unit cost:** classified
- Initial operating capability:** 1956
- Inventory:** active force, 33 (5 two-seat trainers and two ER-2s operated by NASA); Reserve, 0; ANG, 0



U.S. Air Force photo/Master Sgt. Rose Reynolds

The U-2S Dragon Lady provides continuous day or night, high-altitude, all-weather, stand-off surveillance of an area in direct support of U.S. and allied ground and air forces. It provides critical intelligence to decision makers through all phases of conflict, including peacetime indications and warnings, crises, low-intensity conflict and large-scale hostilities.



U.S. Air Force photo

The U-2S Dragon Lady is a single-seat, single-engine, high-altitude/near space reconnaissance and surveillance aircraft providing signals, imagery, and electronic measurements and signature intelligence, or MASINT. Routinely flown at altitudes over 70,000 feet, the U-2 pilot must wear a full pressure suit similar to those worn by astronauts.

Air Force Readiness Programs

(Editor's note: All activities are offered at the Airman & Family Readiness Center unless otherwise specified. For more information about any of the activities listed, call 434-2790.)

Career Technical Training

This transition event is held 8 a.m. - 3 p.m. July 18-19 and explores technical careers for post military personnel using VA Educational benefits. It is conducted by CALIBRE, private company contracted by DVA. Prior registration is required, company requires 10 days notification and must have minimum of eight participants. For more information or to register call 434-2790.

Wing Newcomers Orientation

This brief is held from 8 a.m. - 12:15 p.m. July 19 and is mandatory for newly arrived active-duty and civilian personnel. Spouses are encouraged to attend. The orientation is held at the Columbus Club. For more information call 434-2790.

Military Life Cycle

The Military Life Cycle workshop is from 1-2 p.m. July 19 and allows VA contractors to explain to service members, whether first term, separating, retiring or a veteran, what services the VA offers and what they are able to provide throughout the member's military career and how to apply for benefits. To register and for more information please call 434-2839/2790.

Troops To Teachers

This workshop is 10:30 a.m. - noon July 20. It is an informational workshop for members pursuing or interested in a teaching career after the military. For more information or to register call 434-2790.

Federal USAJobs Workshop

This workshop 9-10:30 a.m. July 20, is on writing resumes, applications, and job search, using USAJobs. For more information or to register call 434-2790.

First Term Officer's PFR

The First Term Officers' Personal Financial Readiness Workshop is required by AFI for all newly assignment personnel to their first station. The event will be 9-10 a.m. July 21. Call 434-2790 to sign up.

Capstone

This class is scheduled for 8 a.m. - noon July 21. The Capstone is required for all separating/retiring personnel and should occur no later than 90 days prior to anticipated separation/retirement; however, if a member has less than 90 days left in the military, the member should attend as soon as possible within their remaining period of service. It verifies if service members have/have not met their Career Readiness Standards/Individual Transition Plan Checklist, DD

Harmon takes command of 14th CS



U.S. Air Force photo/Melissa Doublin

Col. Anthony Sansano, 14th Mission Support Group Commander, passes the 14th Communications Squadron guidon to Maj. Jonathan Harmon, the new 14th CS Commander, during a change of command ceremony July 14 at Columbus Air Force Base, Mississippi.

Form 2958. The checklist, in conjunction with the ITP, will be used by the A&FRC to verify status of CRS completion. Call 434-2790 for more information.

Hearts Apart

The Hearts Apart Social program from 5-7 p.m. July 28 is a monthly event to provide community bonding, fun and appreciation for the families of active-duty personnel who are deployed, remote, or on an extended TDY. Food and activities are provided. For more information or to register call 434-2790.

Resume and Cover Letter

This workshop 9-10:30 a.m. on Aug. 3, gives you preparation for writing effective civilian resumes and cover letters. To sign up call 434-2839/2790.

Heart Link For Spouses

This event is 8:30 a.m. - noon on Aug. 10. It is for spouses new to CAFB or the military lifestyle. The event is held at Columbus Club. It is a fun-filled spouse orientation program with info on protocol, finance, benefits, helping agencies, local conditions and prizes. It is a great way to meet others new to Columbus AFB. To register and for more information, please call 434-2790.

Pre-separation Counseling

This counseling is a mandatory briefing for personnel separating or retiring, to be completed at least 90 days prior to separation. It may be completed up to 12 months prior to separation

or retirement. The counseling is held daily at 8:30 a.m. It takes approximately 60 minutes. Please contact A&FRC, 434-2839/434-2790 for more information.

Pre, Post Deployment Tour Brief

These briefings are mandatory briefings for active-duty personnel who are either deploying or returning from deployment or a remote tour. The briefings are held daily at the A&FRC. Pre-deployment is at 9:30 a.m., and post-deployment is at 1:30 p.m. Please contact A&FRC, 434-2839/434-2790 for more information.

Survivor-Benefit Plan

Are you nearing military retirement? The one decision you will need to make before you retire involves participation in the Survivor Benefit Plan. As with all good decision-making, you need to know the facts before you can make a sound decision, and be wary of anyone telling you they can offer you a better deal. Always get the true facts about the SBP before making up your mind. Additional details are available by calling (662) 434-2720.

Military and Family Life Consultant Program

The MFLC counselors provide non-medical counseling to help Airmen (both single and married), their spouses and other family members to cope with stressful situations created by deployments, reintegration, and life challenges such as martial issues, parenting, career stress and anger. All consultants are licensed mental health pro-

viders. Counselors can meet either on or off base. There is no charge for services and appointments can usually be made within one to two days. To contact the MFLC, call 662-364-0504.

Volunteer Opportunities

If you are interested in volunteering please contact the Airman & Family Readiness Center. We have volunteer opportunities located throughout the base for a one-time event, special events, or on a continual basis. Volunteers are needed on base at the Youth Center, Child Development Center, Library, Golf Course, Medical Clinic, Chapel, Airman Attic, Thrift Store, the Retiree Activities office and many others. For more information please call A&FRC at 434-2790.

Air Force Recovery Coordination Program

The Recovery Coordination Program streamlines and improves the way care and support are delivered to wounded, ill, and injured Airmen and their families. The RCP provides the support of a Recovery Care Coordinator who guides the Airman and family along their road to recovery. Those eligible include wounded, ill and injured Airmen who: (1) have a serious illness or injury (2) are unlikely to return to duty within a specified amount of time (3) may be medically separated from the military. Additional details are available by contacting the Columbus AFB RCC at DSN: 493-3399, Office: 334-953-3399 or tim.griggs.1.ctr@us.af.mil.

Chapel Schedule

Whether you are new to Columbus Air Force Base or have been around for a while, our parish communities welcome you to join us as we worship, fellowship, and encourage one another. For more information, please call 434-2500.

Catholic Community

Sundays:

- 3:45 p.m. – Religious Education, grades K-9 (Chapel Annex)
- 4 p.m. – Choir Practice (Chapel Sanctuary)
- 4 p.m. – Confession (or by appointment)
- 5 p.m. – Mass w/Children's Church

Tuesdays:

11:30 a.m. – Daily Mass

Wednesdays:

11:30-12:30 p.m. – Adoration

Protestant Community

Sundays:

- 9 a.m. – Adult Sunday School (Chapel Library)
- 10:45 a.m. – Traditional Worship Service

Tuesdays:

- 5 p.m. – Student Pilot Bible Study (Chapel Library)

Wednesdays:

- 4 p.m. - Music Rehearsal

Ecumenical services

Wednesdays:

- 6 p.m. – AWANA, a religious education program for children ages three years old to 6th grade
- 6 p.m. – Adult Bible study on the Gospel of John
- 6 p.m. – Youth Group

Columbus Air Force Base Information and Events
Join our Facebook page at Columbus AFB Living, Twitter at @columbusafbliving, MyAirForceLife App on any smart phone or visit our website at columbusafbliving.com to keep up to date with all the great events happening around base. Check out the calendar on the website for important Airman and Family Readiness Center events. For more information, contact 434-2337.

Free Pool Passes and FootGolf
Independence Pool Passes and FootGolf is included with Whispering Pines Golf Membership. If you have an individual golf membership, you receive an individual pool pass and Foot-Golf membership and if you have a family golf membership, you receive a family pool pass and FootGolf membership. Visit Outdoor Recreation for your free pool pass today. For more information, contact 434-2505.

Couples Nine and Wine
Whispering Pines Golf Course is offering Couples Nine and Wine at 5 p.m. July 16. The cost is only \$30 per person; includes 9 holes of golf, cart rental, and hors d'oeuvres. Wine available for purchase. For more information, contact 434-7932.

Bar Benders Challenge
The Fitness Center is offering a Bar Benders Challenge at 6 p.m. July 18. The challenge includes 300 Club, One Rep Max and Max Reps at 185 pounds. Each participant who successfully bench presses 300 will receive a free shirt. For more information or to sign up, contact 434-2772.

Summer Reading Program
Kick off the summer with the Base Library's Summer Reading Program. Win prizes and enjoy weekly activities. Closing ceremony will be held at 1 p.m. July 28. For more information, contact 434-2934.

Pearl River Resort Casino Trip
Outdoor Recreation is offering a monthly casino trip to Pearl River Resort. Upcoming dates are July 30, Aug. 27, Sept. 24, Oct. 22, Nov. 19, and Dec. 17. The cost is only \$25 per person; includes \$20 in play credit at casino and transportation. Outdoor Recreation bus departs Exchange/Shoppette parking lot at 1:30 p.m. Any party of 10 or more may book transportation to casino anytime for \$25 per person. For more information, contact 434-2505.

The Overrun Open Friday Nights
The Overrun is open Fridays 4:30 p.m. until midnight. Bar menu includes chicken wing basket, chicken tender basket, club wrap, or buffalo chicken wrap. For more information, contact 434-2419.

Library Hours of Operation
The Base Library hours of operation are Mondays – Fridays 11 a.m. – 5:30 p.m.; Sundays 1 – 5 p.m.; Saturdays and holidays closed. For more information, contact 434-2934.

Columbus Club Lunch Buffet Specials
The Columbus Club is offering a lunch buffet Tuesday - Friday 11 a.m. – 1:30 p.m. Taco Tuesday includes tacos and nachos for only \$5 per club member and \$6 per non-member; Wednesday has pizza and wings, Thursday is southern, and Friday is catfish and spaghetti. Cost of Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday buffet is only \$7.95 for club members and \$8.95 for non-members. For more information, contact 434-2419.

FREE

Slip 'N Slide Kickball

July 16

1 pm

Ages 18 and Up



Event held at the Officer Dorms Field

- Limited to first 6 teams (9 players per team)
- Sign up at Outdoor Recreation by July 13
- Complete game rules available at Outdoor Recreation
- Coolers with ice available for use
- For more information, contact 434-2505

Story Time and Circle Time at the Library
The Base Library is offering Story Time every Friday at 11 a.m. for all ages. Circle Time is offered each Wednesday at 11 a.m. for ages up to 4 years old. For more information, contact 434-2934.

Bowling Center Party Specials
The Bowling Center is offering two options for all your party needs. Option 1 includes 2 hours of unlimited bowling and shoe rental for only \$8.50 per person. Option 2 includes 2 hours of unlimited bowling, shoe rental, and a child meal for only \$11.50 per person. Choice of meal includes chicken tenders, hot dog, corn dog, or grilled cheese served with fries and drink. You may bring in a cake, cupcakes, and ice cream. No other outside food and drinks allowed. For more information, contact 434-3426.

Cosmic Bowling Special
The Bowling Center is offering Cosmic Bowling for only \$12 per person every Friday and Saturday night from 5 – 8 p.m. You also may purchase individual games for \$3 per game with purchase of \$1.50 shoe rental. For more information, contact 434-3426.

Lawn Mower Repair
Lawn mower repair is now available at Outdoor Recreation. The cost is only \$40 per hour plus parts; pickup and delivery available. Self-help bicycle repair is also available. For more information, contact 434-2507.

Hobby and Craft Instructors Needed
Do you have a hobby or craft project you can share with others? For more information, contact 434-7836.

Referees Needed
Referees needed for various sports at the Fitness Center. For more information or to sign up, contact 434-2772.

Play Paintball
Book your next paintball event at Outdoor Recreation. The cost is \$15 per person for a party of 10 or more; \$20 per person for party of nine or less. You must purchase paint at Outdoor Recreation for \$45 per case of 2,000. For more information, contact 434-2505.

Make Your Shopping Easier
Force Support Squadron gift cards are available in increments of \$5 to fit any budget. They can be used at most Force Support Squadron facilities at Air Force installations worldwide and they never go out of style. Purchase your gift card at one of the following locations: Bowling Center, Golf Course or Youth Center. For more information, contact 434-3426.

Brazilian Jiu Jitsu Class
Free classes are scheduled every Monday, Wednesday, and Friday at 6 p.m. The benefits include huge gains in confidence, functional strength, flexibility, discipline, and overall physical conditioning. Mandatory equipment: BJJ Kimono (Gi); for ages 13 and up. For more information, contact 434-2772.

RV Storage Lot
Don't clutter your home space, park with us. Outdoor Recreation offers a great place to store your RV year around. You will have 24-hour access and can pay monthly or yearly. For more information, call 434-2505.

Green Plate Special
Whispering Pines Golf Course offers a special for lunch Monday through Friday. For more information, call 434-7932 or check us out on Facebook at Columbus AFB Living or Twitter @CAFBLiving!

Instructional Classes at Youth Center
Youth Programs is offering piano lessons, guitar lessons, tumbling classes, dance classes, and martial arts instruction. Times and ages vary for all classes. Call 434-2504 or stop by the Youth Center for more information.

Fitness on Request
CAFB Fitness and Sports offers a truly comprehensive group fitness platform that is available all day and completely customizable to meet your needs with over 30 different classes on the Fitness on Request system. For more information, call 434-2772.

Space A Lodging
The Magnolia Inn usually has openings for Space A family and single units. Contact the lodging desk at 434-2548.

Ride in Style
If you don't want to leave your car at the airport over a vacation, we can help you out. Outdoor Recreation offers a shuttle service to the airport of your choice. Call 434-2505 for more information.

AIR FORCE SPORTS

BECOME AN AIR FORCE ATHLETE



RUGBY



SOFTBALL
(Men & Women)



GOLF
(Men & Women)

ACCEPTING AF FORM 303*

DUE DATE: 15 JUL 16

Athletes selected for specialized training participate in an Air Force Trial Camp. Final team selected at this trial camp advances to represent the Air Force at Armed Forces Championships and national competitions.



*AF Form 303 "Request for USAF Specialized Sports Training" and Air Force Sports Calendar are available to download from www.myairforcelife.com/Sports/. Submit completed form by DUE DATE through myPERS <https://jgum-crm.csd.dlisa.mil/app/dynamicforms/display/form/40/p/2566.2569/c/1525>

SILVER WINGS
July 15, 2016

VIEWPOINT

7

Tribute to mom: Minority Mental Health Awareness Month

Col. Imelda Reedy
14th Medical Group Commander

My mother was born on the island of Mindoro in the Philippines; she was the fourth child of 12 children.

Her father was a Spaniard-Filipino physician, her Spaniard mother was a teacher. In that era, children's futures were intentionally set by their elders and my mother's future was set to become a nurse.

After graduating from proper school, my mom went on to college in Manila. She, along with a couple of her best friends, stood in the entry line to become a nurse on the first day of college. Hours later, despite her embarrassment, she arrived at the head of the line to find it was for entry into Medical School.

Well, my mom decided she would make an excellent doctor and stayed in the line. A couple of her best friends stayed in the line with her. And she persevered, through the first couple of years.

The third year, although she was a studious student, she had difficulty in higher math. She met my father during a calculus course. He tutored her, and after two years of statistically surmising their compatibility they finally married.

They decided to make a go of the "American Dream," accepting jobs with the Indian Health services and positions at San Haven Hospital in North Dakota. From there, we moved to Florida and then settled in Louisiana. My parents worked together as a team taking care of their work and family.

My mom was caretaker of her husband and four children. In her hay-days Mom threw amazing parties and volunteered at church, school, and many other community activities in her spare time. Today ... Dad, my three brothers and I, live with Alzheimer's.

My mom is one of approximately 44 million who live and suffer from this disease which robs her of many precious memories, her sense of self,

My mom was caretaker of her husband and four children. In her hay-days Mom threw amazing parties and volunteered at church, school, and many other community activities in her spare time. Today ... Dad, my three brothers and I, live with Alzheimer's.

and on her worst days the desire to live or love. Our family is one of millions who wait and watch helplessly as our once invincible Mom, the amazing Events Planner, the Cheerleader, and the "Kisser of Boo-boos," disappears insidiously more and more each day.

Unfortunately, mothers and women are targeted by this disease. Females constitute around 66 percent of those with Alzheimer's. Additionally, 60 percent of Alzheimer caregivers are women. Alzheimer's is the sixth leading cause of death in the U.S., however, more recent estimates indicate this disorder may rank third just behind heart disease and cancer, as a cause of death for older people.

Luckily, Mom is not combative nor angry in her state of Alzheimer's. It is not her body which struggles, it is her mind. She recognizes our faces and she can repeat any sentence you ask of her, but cannot remember or recall names or significant dates. We keep with established routines and avoid stress and fatigue. I tell all of the giggling grandchildren amazing stories about life with "Lola" while she sits and smiles with us. Mom's eyes are bright and she smiles frequently, sharing with us that she enjoys our company or what we are doing together.

Share with family members, exchange and tell stories so the next generation can enjoy them and do the same. When I visit with Mom, I make sure to make her smile when I first see her and before she goes to bed at night. I miss my mom, I miss her the most when I'm just sitting across from her. I will make sure she is not forgotten.

Visit www.columbus.af.mil to learn about Columbus AFB agencies and other important information.

Visit us online! www.columbus.af.mil

REDHORSE paves runway flightline roads, helps reduce traffic



Staff Sgt. Forrest Dickson, 823rd Rapid Engineer Deployable Heavy Operational Repair Squadron, Engineering, Hurlburt Field, Florida, shovels excess dirt on the flightline of Columbus Air Force Base, Mississippi, July 12. REDHORSE is currently on a flightline Radio Select Unit project and is scheduled to begin paving Perimeter Road July 18.



Airman 1st Class John Day 14th Flying Training Wing Public Affairs

Years ago, the 14th Civil Engineer Squadron at Columbus Air Force Base transitioned from being made of mostly active-duty uniformed service members to now mostly government and contracted positions.

While these civilian Airmen and contractors help strengthen the base's local community ties, when the mission calls for specifically trained professionals, they call REDHORSE, the Rapid Engineer Deployable Heavy Operational Repair Squadron, Engineering.

REDHORSE units are trained and equipped to make heavy repairs, upgrade airfields and facilities, and support weapons systems deployment to theaters of operations.

In Southwest Asia, Prime Base Engineer Emergency Force, or Prime BEEF, teams fulfilled a need for short term construction capabilities. However, the Air Force need-



ed a stable and longer term heavy repair capability. The response was to organize two 400-man heavy repair squadrons. These units, the 555th and the 554th Civil Engineer Squadrons, were then activated in October 1965.

After nine weeks of training at Cannon AFB, New Mexico, the 555th CES was deployed to Cam Ranh Bay Air Base and the 554th to Phan Rang AB in Vietnam.

Upon arrival in Vietnam, REDHORSE repaired aluminum matting runways, drilled wells to obtain potable water, quarried and crushed stone for roads and runways, repaired mortar damage caused by enemy attacks, constructed and upgraded operational facilities and housing, erected aircraft revetments, and installed aircraft arresting barriers and airfield lighting systems.

By 1967, six REDHORSE squadrons had been trained, organized, and deployed to Southeast Asia; five to South Vietnam and one to Thailand. At the peak of their activity, REDHORSE' total strength reached 2,400 military and more than 6,000 Vietnamese and Thai nationals.

Currently, Airmen from the 823rd REDHORSE, Hurlburt Field, Florida, are visiting Columbus AFB to complete two separate projects.

"Here the projects we are working on are a mill and repave and a bottom-up construction," said Master Sgt. Wesley McCord, 823rd REDHORSE Superintendent of Heavy Repair. "This means we will be putting in roads where none existed be-

fore."

REDHORSE is paving roads on the flightline to reduce traffic, resulting in fewer accidents and expedited traffic.

"They are putting in a road between Radio Select Unit three and six and one and four," said Ben Sala, 14th CES, Construction Manager. "This will reduce the amount of taxiway and runway incursions by 80 percent. With those two roads, there will be zero maintenance traffic having to cross to the next runway."

The other project REDHORSE is set to

work on is paving Perimeter Road. Starting where the road bends toward the perimeter before the SAC Lake area, and continuing as far as the north gate.

"Our long-term goal is to eventually have Perimeter Road repaved the entire way around," Sala said. "Nothing is set in stone, but we would like to get REDHORSE back out here to finish up the road."

Airmen from the 823rd work on these sorts of projects to meet training requirements, prepare for deployments and to save Air Force money by using Airmen rather

than paying contractors in some cases.

"A majority of our work is actually stateside," McCord said. "They serve as troop training projects. Without these kinds of ventures, our new Airmen coming in would have no on-the-job training. The difference between stateside and overseas is stateside work is all training for doing it in a deployed or overseas location."

REDHORSE estimates the RSU project will be complete within two weeks. The Perimeter Road paving will take approximately 45 days beginning July 18.



Senior Airman Nathaniel Henkel, 823rd Rapid Engineer Deployable Heavy Operational Repair Squadron, Engineering, Hurlburt Field, Florida, clears a lane of dirt on the flightline of Columbus Air Force Base, Mississippi, July 12. REDHORSE estimates the RSU project will be completed within two weeks.



Airmen from the 823rd Rapid Engineer Deployable Heavy Operational Repair Squadron, Engineering, Hurlburt Field, Florida, work on the flightline of Columbus Air Force Base, Mississippi, July 12. Airmen from the 823rd REDHORSE work on these sorts of projects to meet training requirements and prepare for deployments, which also benefit stateside Air Force bases.

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