

## Weather



## News Briefs

### Tops in Blue

Tops in Blue is scheduled to perform at 5 p.m. June 20 at MUW's Rent Auditorium in Columbus, Mississippi. Admission is free but is on a first come, first serve basis. Doors open at 4:15 p.m. for military ID holders and 4:30 p.m. for the general public.

### Wing Newcomers Orientation

A Wing Newcomers Orientation is scheduled for 8 a.m. - 1 p.m. June 23 at Kaye Auditorium for newly arrived active-duty and civilian personnel and spouses.

### 14th SFS Change of Command

The 14th Security Forces Squadron is hosting a Change of Command ceremony at 10:14 a.m. June 25 at Kaye Auditorium.

## Inside



### Feature 8

The 14th OSS is highlighted in this week's feature.

# Team BLAZE welcomes Fisher as new vice commander

## 14th Flying Training Wing Public Affairs

Team BLAZE welcomes the 14th Flying Training Wing's new vice wing commander, Col. James Fisher and his family, to Columbus Air Force Base, Mississippi.

Fisher will begin his duties June 22.

As the new vice commander, Fisher is responsible for day-to-day operations of base support functions and mission activities of more than 3,600 people, an operations and maintenance budget of \$147 million and capital assets and equipment exceeding \$2.3 billion. In addition, the wing supports seven associate units and provides essential contingency mission support for Air Education and Training Command.

Prior to his current position, Colonel Fisher served as the Director of Safety, Air Education and Training Command, Joint Base San Antonio-Randolph, Texas. In this capacity he led flight, ground and explosive mishap prevention programs for nearly 63,000 command personnel charged to recruit, train and educate more than 320,000 people annually via Air Force Recruiting Service, Air University, 2nd Air Force, and 1,369 trainer, fighter and mobility aircraft.

No stranger to Columbus, Fisher entered the Air Force in 1991 as an Air Force Reserve Officer Training Corps graduate from Mississippi State University and held numerous positions on Columbus AFB throughout his career. His first assignment was as a personnel officer at Fort George G. Meade, Maryland, and the Pentagon where he worked personnel issues supporting the National Capital Region and the 6,000-plus military members assigned to the Washington, D.C., metro area. He was selected for pilot training and earned his wings at Columbus AFB, Mississippi. His first operational assignment was in the KC-10A Extender with the 2nd Air Refueling Squadron at McGuire AFB, N.J., where he participated in world-wide mobility operations



U.S. Air Force photo

Col. James Fisher, 14 FTW Vice Commander

and multiple combat, combat support and humanitarian operations. He then returned to Columbus AFB as a T-1A Jayhawk specialized undergraduate pilot training instructor, helping to train more than 1,000 of the next generation of

See FISHER, 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 (16-04) | 16.35 days   | 4.40 days        | June 30      | 48th (15-11) | 0.35 days    | -1.03 days       | July 1     | 49th (15-IBC) | -0.35 days   | -0.73 days       | June 29    | T-6               | 1,675    | 1,669 | 20,286 |
| 41st (16-04) | 4.32 days    | 4.68 days        | June 30      | 50th (15-11) | -2.99 days   | -2.74 days       | July 1     |               |              |                  |            | T-1               | 640      | 695   | 7,575  |
|              |              |                  |              |              |              |                  |            |               |              |                  |            | T-38              | 426      | 526   | 6,096  |
|              |              |                  |              |              |              |                  |            |               |              |                  |            | IFF               | 270      | 269   | 2,872  |

## FISHER

(Continued from page 1)

mobility aviators. Following attendance at Air Command and Staff College at Maxwell AFB, Alabama, he was assigned to the Deputy Under Secretary of the Air Force for International Affairs at the Pentagon, Washington, D.C., as a country director for the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. As the country director he managed a \$25 billion portfolio of foreign military sales cases supporting the Royal Saudi Air Force and was the political-military expert supporting the Secretary and Chief of Staff of the Air Force on policy and security cooperation issues. He then served as the operations officer and commander of the 99th Flying Training Squadron, Randolph AFB, Texas, training the cadre of T-1A instructor pilots for specialized undergraduate pilot training duty.

## ASSIGNMENTS

May 1992 – July 1992, personnel officer, technical training, Keesler AFB, Mississippi

July 1992 – August 1993, Chief, Customer Service, Military Personnel Flight, Ft. Meade, Maryland

August 1993 – December 1995, Chief, Personnel Relocations and Employment, Military Personnel Flight, the Pentagon, Washington, D.C.

January 1996 – January 1997, student, specialized undergraduate pilot training, Columbus AFB, Mississippi

February 1997 – June 2001, KC-10 instructor aircraft commander/flight commander, 2nd Air Refueling Squadron, McGuire AFB, N.J.

July 2001 – June 2003, T-1A instructor aircraft commander and assistant flight commander, 48th Flying Training Squadron, Columbus AFB, Mississippi

June 2003 – March 2004, Chief, Standardization and Evaluation, 48th Flying Training Squadron, Columbus AFB, Mississippi

March 2004 – January 2005, Executive Officer, 14th Flying Training Wing, Columbus AFB, Mississippi

January 2005 – July 2005, Director of Staff, 14th Flying Training Wing, Columbus AFB, Mississippi

July 2005 – June 2006, student, Air Command and Staff College, Maxwell AFB, Alabama

June 2006 – May 2008, Country Director, Deputy Under Secretary of the Air Force, International Affairs, the Pentagon, Washington, D.C.

June 2008 – May 2010, Director of Operations, 99th Flying Training Squadron, Randolph AFB, Texas

May 2010 – May 2012, Commander, 99th Flying Training Squadron, Randolph AFB, Texas

May 2012 – July 2012, Deputy Commander, 12th Operations Group, Randolph AFB, Texas

July 2012 – July 2013, Chief of Staff, 9th Air and Space Expeditionary Task Force-Afghanistan and Deputy Chief of Staff-Air, ISAF Joint Command, Kabul, Afghanistan

August 2013 – June 2015, Director of Safety, Headquarters Air Education and Training Command, Joint Base San Antonio-Randolph, Texas

June 2015 - present, Vice Commander, 14th Flying Training Wing, Columbus AFB, Mississippi

| Mon                                   | Tue   | Wed  | Thur  | Fri   | Sat/Sun  | Long Range Events   |
|---------------------------------------|---|--|---|---|--|---|
| 22<br>CAP SUPT Familiarization Course | 23<br>Wing Newcomers Orientation, 8 a.m. @ Kaye | 24   | 25<br>14th SFS Change of Command, 10:14 a.m. @ Kaye | 26<br>Col. McArthur, 14 FTW/CV, retirement, 2:14 @ Phillips | 27/ 28<br>→  | July 13: SAPR Large Group Training<br>July 14: Wing Newcomers Orientation<br>July 17: AF Birthday Ball Drawdown<br>July 24: SUPT Class 15-12 Graduation<br>July 28: Quarterly Awards Ceremony<br>July 31: Enlisted Promotions<br>July 31: 14th MDG Change of Command<br>Aug. 4: Wing Newcomers Orientation<br>Aug. 14: SUPT Class 15-13 Graduation<br>Aug. 31: Enlisted Promotions<br>Sept. 4: AETC Family Day<br>Sept. 7: Labor Day<br>Sept. 11: SUPT Class 15-14 Graduation |
| 29                                    | 30<br>Enlisted Promotions, 3 p.m. @ Kaye        | 1<br>Footgolf Ribbon Cutting, 9:14 a.m. @ Golf Course<br><br>SUPT Class 15-11 Graduation, 10 a.m. @ Kaye | 2<br>AETC Family Day                                | 3<br>Independence Day Federal Holiday                       | 4/5<br>4th-Independence Day<br><br>4th-Fireworks on the Water, 5 p.m. @ Stennis Lock and Dam |   |

## Silver Wings

### How to reach us

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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.*



June 19, July 9 and 23

The Sounds of Summer Concert Series has begun. Come to the free concert series at the Riverwalk 7 - 9

p.m. throughout the months of June and July. Coolers and pets not welcome, please bring lawn chairs for comfort seating.

## BARGAIN LINE

The deadline for submitting ads is noon Monday before the desired publication date. Ads turned in after the deadline will run the following week. Ads can be mailed to or dropped off at the public affairs office in the 14th Flying Training Wing Headquarters building, e-mailed to silverwings@columbus.af.mil or faxed to 434-7009. Calling Ext. 7068 by noon Monday can extend the run date of ads already submitted. Silver Wings

reserves the right to limit ads based on content, space and frequency of requests. Advertisements for private businesses or services providing a continuous source of income may not appear in the Bargain Line. They may, however, be purchased through The Commercial Dispatch, 328-2424.

### Miscellaneous

For Sale: Two IBM T61 Laptops with

Intel 2.10ghz CPU, Windows XP, and 2gRam; asking \$145 for the 120ghd and \$135 for the 80ghd. For more information call 386-6981.

### Transportation

For Sale: 2004 tan Nissan Frontier XE, 6-cylinder, 4-door, 141,700 miles, \$6,900. For more information call 574-3312.



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## Hilburn takes command of 50th FTS



U.S. Air Force photo/Sharon Ybarra

Col. James Boster passes the 50th Flying Training Squadron guidon to Lt. Col. Jason Hilburn, signifying Hilburn taking command of the squadron during a change of command ceremony June 16 at Columbus Air Force Base, Mississippi.

## Lieutenant colonel selects



U.S. Air Force photo/Melissa Doublin

Majs. Nathaniel Miller, Carl Rotermund and Michael Cline, all lieutenant colonel selects, gather for a party celebrating their promotion June 12 at Columbus Air Force Base, Mississippi. Team BLAZE lieutenant colonel selects gather for a party celebrating their promotion June 12 at Columbus Air Force Base, Mississippi. Ten Team BLAZE Airmen were selected for lieutenant colonel. The selects enjoyed a celebration with their family and wingmen at the bowling alley.

## Technical Sergeant Selects



U.S. Air Force photo/Senior Airman Stephanie Englar

Nine Team BLAZE technical sergeant selects gather for a party celebrating their promotion June 11 at Columbus Air Force Base, Mississippi. Following a congratulatory speech for Col. Howard McArthur, 14th Flying Training Wing Vice Commander, the technical sergeant selects enjoyed a celebration with hamburgers and drinks.

## 14TH FLYING TRAINING WING DEPLOYED

As of press time, 32 TEAM BLAZE members are deployed worldwide. Remember to support the Airmen and their families while they are away.



## Retiree Affairs Did you know...?

Retirees, did you know many retirees are under the false belief TRICARE, Medicare or the Veterans Affairs will take care of their long-term medical care needs? This may not be the case. The Federal Long-Term Care Insurance Plan is a benefit that offers our retirees an opportunity to protect their savings when the time comes for long-term care. For more information about FLTCIP call your Retiree Activities office at 434-3120.



**To advertise in Silver Wings, call 328-2424**



# Nichols mentors company grade officers

**2nd Lt. Lauren Woods**  
14th Flying Training Wing  
Public Affairs

Col. John Nichols, 14th Flying Training Wing Commander, spoke to assembled company grade officers June 15 at Columbus Air Force Base, Mississippi, during a small mentorship luncheon.

The luncheon was part of a mentorship program designed to prepare CGOs for the next step in their careers. Over sandwiches and chips, the colonel spoke candidly to the junior officers about their role in the Air Force.

“What we need are officers that are willing to take action,” Nichols said. “I often get asked the question, ‘What can I do to do the best I can in my job?’ And I know this sounds cliché, but the answer is to do the best job in the job you’re in, whatever it is.”

Among his advice, he suggested “don’t step over a dead body,” meaning if something is broken, speak up rather than leaving it alone.

Finally, he had this advice for CGOs: “control the things that are within your con-

trol. Some of it is not. I was an Intel officer for close to eight years; I left the Academy, had back surgery, lost my pilot slot, and it took me eight years to get it back. Three times the Air Force surgeon general told me, ‘Nichols, you will never fly for the United States Air Force.’

“There’s a story here about persistence: it’s okay to have goals and continue to push for them, but at the same time, do the job you’re in now. Don’t let the goal overshadow the task at hand.”

The CGOC consists of second lieutenants, first lieutenants and captains from all groups at Columbus AFB. The council’s mission is to maintain and improve the quality of life, morale and professional development for all active-duty company grade officers, and their families, assigned to Team BLAZE. Membership is open to all permanent-party officers below major; however, non-member CGOs are welcome to attend CGOC functions.

For more information about becoming a member of the CGOC, contact 1st Lt. Joseph Smiley, CGOC president, at 434-1330 or by email at joseph.smiley.2@us.af.mil.



U.S. Air Force photo/Sharon Ybarra  
**Col. John Nichols, 14th Flying Training Wing Commander, speaks to company grade officers at the CGOC luncheon, June 15 on Columbus Air Force Base, Mississippi. During the hour-long luncheon, the colonel provided mentorship on a variety of issues facing young officers, including proactive leadership and creating a culture of engagement.**

# DOD launches Integrated Lodging Program Pilot

Defense Travel Management Office,

WASHINGTON — The Defense Department will launch an Integrated Lodging Program Pilot June 15, which will provide quality government and commercial lodging, with greater safety and security and better services at reduced rates.

Travelers TDY, for 30 days or less, to select DOD locations will be directed to book lodging in the Defense Travel System (DTS) and use government or preferred commercial lodging before other lodging accommodations.

The effort to develop an enterprise-wide program was facilitated by the National Defense Authorization Act 2015, which authorizes the secretary of Defense to institute a government lodging program to provide quality government or commercial lodging for civilians or members of the military services performing duty on official travel.

**Integrated Lodging Program Pilot sites:**

- Charleston, South Carolina - Joint Base Charleston
- Dayton, Ohio - Wright-Patterson Air Force Base
- Norfolk, Virginia – Select area U.S. military installations
- Saratoga Springs, New York - Naval Support Activity Saratoga Springs
- Seattle-Tacoma International Airport, Washington area
- Tampa, Florida - MacDill Air Force Base
- Twentynine Palms, California - Marine Corps Air Ground Combat Center

The DOD Integrated Lodging Program Pilot affords an excellent opportunity to not only leverage the DOD’s collective purchasing power, but also incorporate program en-

hancements that ensure a certain level of “duty of care” for its travelers.

**An integrated lodging program will:**

- Enable travelers to use DTS to find trusted lodging providers, government and preferred commercial.
- Ensure travelers are staying in quality lodging facilities that are close to TDY locations; are protected from certain fees; and provide amenities at no additional cost with room rates below the established government per diem rates.
- Enhance traveler care and satisfaction; provide greater traveler security; reduce lodging spend per night; and improve program management and data collection.

**Supporting travel policy**

The Joint Travel Regulations (JTR) paragraph 1265 states that service member and civilian travelers who are TDY to a military installation at an Integrated Lodging Program Pilot site are required to first book government lodging if available, and then preferred commercial lodging. If TDY to a pilot site city or metro area, travelers will be directed to use DOD preferred commercial lodging before booking other lodging options. If government or preferred commercial lodging at a pilot location is available and a traveler chooses to stay in other lodging, reimbursement for lodging costs is limited to the amount the government would have paid if the traveler stayed in either government (if available) or a participating preferred commercial lodging property.

- Orders list TDY location as military installation: If a traveler’s orders list the TDY location as an U.S. installation at a pilot site, the traveler is directed to book government lodging if available. If available and the traveler chooses other accommodations, lodging cost reimbursement is limited to

the cost of available government lodging.

- Orders list TDY location as pilot site city or metropolitan area: If a traveler’s orders list the TDY location as a pilot site city or surrounding metropolitan area, the traveler is directed to book preferred commercial lodging if available. If preferred commercial lodging is available but not used, lodging cost reimbursement is limited to the highest negotiated rate for preferred commercial lodging.

An authorizing official may authorize exceptions based on mission, distance, lower rate, as well as other exceptions listed in the JTR.

**DTS modifications**

To support this new program, DTS will be modified to guide travelers to selecting the directed lodging at the TDY location. Another welcome feature is that the system will automatically secure a non-availability confirmation number when directed government lodging is not available, as required by policy. This is an added convenience and prevents the traveler from having to contact the facility directly to secure the number as they did before. Additionally, when traveling to non-pilot sites, travelers will be able to book government lodging facilities directly in DTS.

The Integrated Lodging Program Pilot will provide valuable insights for sourcing and managing an enterprise-wide program; it is the genesis of a model for managing the DOD’s future lodging requirements. The pilot is authorized to run through 2019 and the Defense Travel Management Office expects that additional pilot sites will be added along the way. More information, including FAQs and a description of the new DTS functionality, is available on the DTMO website.

## 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.

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## Total force current, selected master sergeant evaluations close out Sept. 30

**Debbie Gildea**  
Air Force Personnel Center  
Public Affairs

JOINT BASE SAN ANTONIO-RANDOLPH, Texas — Regular Air Force, Air National Guard and Air Force Reserve master sergeant and master sergeant-select enlisted performance reports will now close out annually on Sept. 30. In addition, as of June 3, master sergeants and selects will no longer receive change-of-reporting-official EPRs.

Enlisted Evaluation System and Weighted Airman Promotion System changes initiated in July 2014, including EPR static close-out dates for each grade, focus on ensuring job performance is the most important factor

when evaluating Airmen.

Master sergeants and selects, whose EPRs closed out before June 3, will get another EPR that closes out Sept. 30 covering performance during the months between their most recent EPR and Sept. 30.

Master sergeants and selects whose EPRs would have closed out between June 3 and Sept. 30 will not get an EPR until the Sept. 30 closeout date.

Additional enlisted evaluation and promotion system changes will be announced as they are approved for implementation.

For more information about Air Force personnel programs go to myPers. Individuals who do not have a myPers account can request one by following the directions on the Air Force Retirees Services website.

## Virtual training yields real results

**Tech. Sgt. Christopher Carwile**  
59th Medical Wing Public Affairs

JOINT BASE SAN ANTONIO-LACKLAND, Texas — The 59th Medical Wing joined local, state and federal agencies in a recent virtual training exercise aimed at preparing officials for a pandemic influenza outbreak.

Wing emergency management and public health officers participated in the virtual table-top exercise June 2 - 5. Sponsored by the Federal Emergency Management Agency and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention in Atlanta and conducted through video teleconference, the free training was especially valuable as budget constraints can limit non mission-essential travel opportunities.

“We had the opportunity to learn from, and network with, other subject matter experts that we normally would not have had a chance to meet,” said Capt. Audra Blasi, 359th Aerospace Medicine Squadron Public Health officer.

According to the CDC, an influenza pandemic could happen if a non-human influenza changes enough to infect humans and spread easily and quickly among the population. Non-human viruses are especially dangerous because people have little to no immunity to them.

Members of the 59th MDW participated in all three days of the exercise.

The pandemic influenza outbreak scenario was the same each day, but participants varied each session. Each four-hour exercise session was broken into three modules: preparedness, response, and extended response/recovery.

The modules provided discussion questions concerning disaster response plans, and allowed each unit a chance to share their thoughts with the whole group.

“Listening to other experts helped us look at our disaster response plans and see where we could make improvements,” said Blasi. “In the end, we identified a few areas to review and fine-tune so that if an outbreak does occur, we can respond quickly and efficiently.”



# Victim advocate lends a helping hand

Staff Sgt. Sheila deVera

Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson Public Affairs

JOINT BASE ELMENDORF-RICHARDSON, Alaska — (This feature is part of the “Through Airmen’s Eyes” series on AF.mil. These stories focus on a single Airman, highlighting their Air Force story.)

During a feedback session, he was told to start looking for volunteer opportunities. Soon after, he received an email about a program asking for volunteers; he applied without knowing what he was getting into. Suddenly, the 20-year-old Airman found himself a Sexual Assault Prevention and Response victim advocate.

Staff Sgt. Joshua Greene, a 673rd Civil Engineer Squadron firefighter, has been a victim advocate for the past seven years, and although he hadn’t put much thought into it when he signed up, the impact he has made on others has caused him to never look back.

“Growing up, I was a sheltered little boy living in a bubble,” Greene said. “I had no idea what I was doing.

“I was 21 when I received my first phone call asking for help,” he said. “When I answered the phone, the first thing I thought was ‘Holy crap! What did I just sign myself into?’”

Greene said during that first call, he was just going through the checklist sounding like a robot.

“I sounded like an ass,” he said. “I was not there for them. All I wanted to do was try to get the job done.”

His patient told him not to treat him like a technical order. Realizing his mistake, he learned to treat everyone with compassion.

That call changed everything for him.

After talking to his mother about the program, the Escondido, California, native found out his mother had been in an abusive relationship. It opened up his eyes to see the darker side of the world.

“I didn’t know how close to home (it would hit) until talking to (that) victim,” Greene said. “When you hear their story, telling you what happened to them, (it) gets to you. I also have two younger children and it can potentially happen to my family; it scares the crap out of me.”

Before he became a family man, he was only worried about himself. In the seven years he has been a victim advocate, he found out that anyone can potentially be a victim.

“All the people that I’ve seen go through this — there is no color, you can be tall, fat, short, male or female — there is no demographic,” the father of four said.

As a victim advocate, Greene possesses essential information and resources. His primary role is to serve the needs of sexual assault victims and or survivors for as long as needed.

“Every time that phone rings, I am terrified (about what I am going to say),” Green said. “You try to prepare yourself mentally and emotionally, up to the point you hear the person talking on the other line. You are never prepared for the next call. In no way shape or form are they ever the same; it’s always been different situations for me.”

Greene, along with more than 30 other victim advocates at Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson, Alaska, is the first line of support for victims of sexual assault. They provide emo-

*“You are just trying to make sure they are safe, make sure they are where they need to be, and if they need someone to talk to, you are there,” Greene said. “We help them get back to their feet.”*

tional support and information about what to expect, and connect victims to other services while maintaining the victim’s confidentiality.

“You are just trying to make sure they are safe, make sure they are where they need to be, and if they need someone to talk to, you are there,” Greene said. “We help them get back to their feet.”

In his time, Greene said he has seen some of the victims become stronger and watches them slowly build themselves up.

Sometimes, they contact the victim advocate later and provide an update that things are better.

“That’s really the whole responsibility of the job — helping them seize control of the past,” Greene said.

“You never want to see a silver lining, but I can help and see them get better — continue to live and not let that person take away what was taken from them. Even if (the perpetrator) took a fragment of who they are, they still have everything to look forward to.”

Based on what he has seen, he said sexual assault is the worst crime because sometimes there aren’t any wounds -- it’s only words, feelings, emotions. There is often no evidence of bullet or stab wounds, or photos of the damage done.

“I can never put myself in their shoes because it has never happened to me,” Greene said. “I can never say I know how they felt. The best thing I can do is let them know that no matter what happened, I will be there until they do not need me anymore.”

After one of his annual SAPR training briefs at the base theater, one Airman thanked him.

“That’s all I ever need, to know that one person’s life is better,” he said. “If we can help one person’s life then we can make a difference at that point. If this base has 41,000 people and if everyone helped one person, then we would have helped 41,000 ... I hope that message gets out there and take away something from it. That’s what I hope will happen. I hope that somebody hears or sees what I am doing.”

Darmaly Williams, the 673rd Air Base Wing SAPR program manager, said Greene is a tremendous asset to the SAPR program and has given thousands of man hours to help people understand why the SAPR program exists.

“His passion is tangible,” Williams said. “Our office has received many compliments over the years stating the impact



U.S. Air Force photo/Staff Sgt. Sheila deVera

**Staff Sgt. Joshua Greene, is just one of more than 30 Sexual Assault Prevention and Response victim advocates at Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson, Alaska, who are the first line of support for victims of sexual assault. The victim advocate offers support to their clients, facilitates their decision making, informs them of their rights, serves as a liaison among agencies, accompanies their clients to appointments, offer crisis intervention, conducts safety planning and works with other helping and law enforcement agencies until their services are no longer needed or requested. Greene is assigned to the 673rd Civil Engineer Squadron as a firefighter.**

Greene made during a class, or (while) addressing an individual’s specific questions about the program and its nature.”

In fiscal year 2014, there were a total of 6,131 reports of sexual assault in the Defense Department. The term covers a wide range of misconduct from rape to inappropriate touching of another person with intent to abuse, humiliate or degrade the victim.

Greene added, “I will continue to be a victim advocate because I want (sexual assault) to stop. Will it stop? Probably not. You cannot stop evil and you cannot stop stupid. You may never stop the problem, but we can get darn close and fix a lot of things that are wrong.”

## MyMC2 app

Welcome to the My Military Communities information page. MyMC2 is the mobile application that centralizes all of your installation’s community events, organizations and services right in your pocket.



### How do I get MyMC2 for my phone?

You can access this app by navigating to the native app store or market on your device and search for “MyMC2”, or you can scan this QR code and it will take you directly to the download page in your phone.



iPhone  
QR code

Android  
QR code

If you have any questions or need support please visit [www.facebook.com/mymc2support](http://www.facebook.com/mymc2support)



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

**Retired Lt. Gen. Michael Gould, former Superintendent, U.S. Air Force Academy, Colorado Springs, Colorado, speaks at the Specialized Undergraduate Pilot Training Class 15-10 graduation June 12 on Columbus Air Force Base, Mississippi. Gould spoke to the new aviators about the legacy Brig. Gen. Robbie Risner left behind and the life tips Risner gave Gould at his own graduation many years ago.**

## Gould echoes Risner’s keys to success

Airman 1st Class John Day

14th Flying Training Wing Public Affairs

Retired Lt. Gen. Michael Gould, former Superintendent, U.S. Air Force Academy, Colorado Springs, Colorado, visited Columbus Air Force Base, Mississippi, to speak at the Specialized Undergraduate Pilot Training Class 15-10 graduation June 12.

Accompanying him was his wife, retired Col. Paula Gould, a former tanker pilot and one of the first combat-qualified female pilots in the Air Force.

Gould earned his commission and a bachelor’s degree in behavioral science from the Air Force Academy in 1976. He has commanded an operations group, an air refueling wing, an air mobility wing and the Cheyenne Mountain Operations Center. He has also commanded the 3rd Air Force, Royal Air Force Mildenhall, England, and the 2nd Air Force, Keesler Air Force Base, Mississippi.

He began his speech by thanking the audience for allowing him to come to share the momentous day with the 22 newest pilots.

“Thank you very much and welcome to everybody in attendance,” Gould said. “Paula and I are so honored to be here and to be a part of this graduation.”

The general spoke about his own UPT graduation many years ago and how he remembered his guest speaker, Brig. Gen. Robbie Risner, a highly regarded Air Force pilot who served in World War II, The Korean War and The Vietnam War. He spoke at great length about Risner and emphasized key themes that were imparted to him on the day of his own graduation.

Winning was one theme. He made the comparison

of war to sports, showing how a relatively low success rate in various sports is considered good, while in the military, much more is on the line with a low success chance.

“Winning is important in our world,” Gould said. “The business we are all in of defending our country, winning is not a nice thing to have, it is the only thing. The only option we have.”

Gould then went into relationships and discussed how even the smallest bit of friendship and trust will take people far.

“We always have to treat everybody with respect,” he said. “You never know when you will have to rely on one another in tough times.”

Another theme he explained was the difference between self-awareness and situational awareness and how both were necessary.

“Self-awareness is really the key,” Gould said. “Situational awareness will certainly prepare you for things that are going to happen, but it’s self-awareness that will save your bacon when things really get tough.”

For his last theme, Gould emphasized how Risner’s faith got him through being a prisoner of war for more than seven years and how it related to him.

“You’re going to hit some bumps,” Gould said. “You are going to get some curveballs thrown at you that you just don’t know how to hit, but if you keep your faith high, you will end up with an epitaph that will look like Robbie Risner’s.”

He ended with an encouraging statement to the graduates of class 15-10.

“Smile guys; you are in for a great time flying airplanes for your Air Force,” Gould said. “God bless you all and God bless America.”



# Enlisted Combat Dining-in Rules of Engagement

**Pre-Mission RoE**

1. Chose the oldest and nastiest uniform you have in your closet to wear, with your cover too! You know the one; it's still covered in grass and dirt from the last exercise. There is no idea as to how your uniform will look after the evening is over.

2. Get camo'd up. If you don't know, I'll tell you, you are going to get dirty at a combat dining-in. So, go in with your war paint on and let everyone know you mean business from the start.

3. If you plan on driving to the event, cover your seats with garbage bags or bring a change of clothes. Also, place your wallet and other personal items in a plastic bag to help protect them.

4. Drive to the store and grab every toy water weapon you can. I'm talking everything from water balloons to super soakers. Basically, anything that will add to the chaos without actually hurting someone.

5. I highly suggest you form an alliance with some of your friends, so you can fight as a team. It's always important to have a wingman, but especially at a combat dining-in. You don't want to be on the receiving end of 10 water guns with no back up.

6. It's going to be a battle and, before you enter the combat zone, make sure your weapon arsenal is ready to go. There are some traditions and formalities beforehand, but once the action starts, it's on.

7. Don't be scared. Get in there and fight. Play hard and show no mercy - this is the only time you can bust your boss in the face with a water balloon.

8. Don't get caught without your Coin of choice and a copy of your LES!!!!

**Team Blaze Enlisted Combat Dining In RoE**

\*Refrain from shooting the POW/MIA Table at all times!

\*Refrain from shooting the Head Table prior to our Guest Speaker speaking. After which, game on!

(rule 1): Thou shalt arrive on time."

(rule 2) "Thou shalt move to the mess when the air raid horn sounds and remain standing until told to be seated by the President of the Mess."

(rule 3) "Thou shalt express approval only by banging thy fists upon the table."

(rule 4) "Thou shalt wear proper military attire throughout the evening."

(rule 5) "Thou shalt be able to prove identity and readiness for worldwide deployment at a moment's notice."

(rule 6) "Thou shalt evade incoming artillery by immediately ducking underneath the nearest table."

(rule 7) "Thou shalt not bring lighted smoking material into the mess."

(rule 8) "Thou shalt not leave the mess whilst convened. Military protocol overrides all calls of nature."

(rule 9) "Thou shalt not open the hangar doors."

(rule 10) "Thou shalt ensure thy glass is always charged when toasting."

(rule 11) "Thou shalt participate in all toasts unless thyself or thy group is honored with a toast."

(rule 12) "Thou shalt keep toasts and comments within the limits of good taste and mutual respect. Degrading or insulting remarks will be frowned upon by the membership. However, good-natured needling is encouraged."

(rule 13) "Thou shalt always use the proper toasting procedures."

(rule 14) "Thou shalt not question the decisions of the President."

(rule 15) "When the mess adjourns, thou shalt rise and wait for the President and head table guests to leave."

(rule 16) "Thou shalt make every effort to meet all guests."

(rule 17) "Thou shalt enjoy thyself to thy fullest."

Commander's Action Line  
434-1414

The Commander's Action Line is your direct line to the commander for comments and suggestions on how to make Columbus AFB a better place. Although the Commander's Action Line is always available, the best way to resolve problems is through the chain-of-command.

The Commander's Action Line phone number is 434-1414. Callers should leave their name and phone number to receive an answer. All names will be kept confidential. Message may be answered in the Silver Wings without names.

Written questions may also be brought to the PA office in the Wing Headquarters building, BLDG. 724, suite 210. Questions and answers may be edited for brevity and style.

## 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.)*

### Wing Newcomers Orientation

This brief will be from 8 a.m. – 12:15 p.m. June 23. It is mandatory for newly arrived active-duty and civilian personnel. Spouses are encouraged to attend. The orientation is held at the Kaye Auditorium. For more information call 434-2839.

### Military Life Cycle

The Military Life Cycle workshop, 1 - 2 p.m. June 23, allows the 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 more information please call 434-2790.

### Heart Link For Spouses

This event is 8:30 a.m. - noon June 24 and is for dependents new to Columbus AFB or the military lifestyle. The event is held at the Golf Course. 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.

### Hearts Apart Social

The Hearts Apart Social program 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. This month the social will be 5-7 p.m. June 25. Please call 434-2790 in advance to register.

### Smooth Move

This class, 10-11:30 a.m. July 1, is a class that provides relocating members/families with valuable information about moving. You learn what to expect from TMO, Housing, Military Pay, Legal, Billeting, Tri-Care, Medical Records, and A&FRC. Please call 434-2790 to register.

### Transition Assistance Program GPS Workshop

This workshop is held 7:30 a.m. - 4 p.m. July 6-10. The Transition Assistance Program Workshop has Seminars on: Transition, Military Occupational Code Crosswalk, Financial Planning, Health Benefits, Mississippi Dept. of Employment Security, Dept. of Veterans Affairs, Disabled TAP, Dept. of Labor TAP portion. Pre-separation counseling is required before attending. Recommend attendance 8 – 12 months prior to separation/retirement. Spouses are encouraged to attend with their sponsor. To register, call 434-2839.

## Children increase sports skills during British Soccer Camp



U.S. Air Force photo/Airman Daniel Lile  
**Campers play "around the world" during the British Soccer Camp June 10 at Columbus Air Force Base, Mississippi. During the soccer camp, children played miniature soccer games to help increase their skills in multiple aspects of the game.**

### Career Technical Training

This transition event is held 8 a.m. - 3 p.m. July 13-14. The Workshop 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 to make, to register and more information call 434-2790.

### Wing Newcomers Orientation

This brief will be 8 a.m. – 12:15 p.m. July 14. It is mandatory for newly-arrived active-duty and civilian personnel. Spouses are encouraged to attend. The orientation is held at the Kaye Auditorium, for more information call 434-2839.

### 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 your SBP Counselor Jamey Coleman at (662) 434-2720.

### Temporary Jobs for the Summer

Job opportunities include: Clerical, Life-guard, Recreation Aid, Computer Clerk, General Laborer and others. Posting on USA Jobs began March 9 at usajobs.gov.

### 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.

## 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 providers. 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, the Chapel, Airman Attic, Thrift Store, the Retiree Activities office and many others. For more information please call A&FRC at 434-2790.

## Base Community Organizations

### Learn How to Read Your LES

Having a hard time understanding your Leave and Earning Statement? Need a refresher so that you can mentor your subordinates on their entitlements? Finance has you covered. If you would like for Finance to come to your next CC call or Professional Organization event, you can contact Master Sgt. Sabrina Spriggs at DSN 742-3068 or Senior Airman Julianna White at DSN 742-2715.

## 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

**Sunday:**  
3:15 p.m. – Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults (Chapel Annex)  
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  
**Tuesday:**  
11:30 a.m. – Daily Mass

### Protestant Community

**Sunday:**  
9 a.m. – Adult Sunday School (Chapel Library)  
10:45 a.m. – Traditional Worship Service  
**Tuesday:**  
5 p.m. – Student Pilot Bible Study (Chapel Library)  
**Wednesday:**  
4 p.m. - Music Rehearsal



### Force Support Squadron Website

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 are included with Whispering Pines Golf Membership. FootGolf is coming July 1 and is also included with membership. If you have an individual golf membership, you receive an individual pool pass and if you have a family golf membership, you receive a family pool pass. Visit Outdoor Recreation for your free pool pass today. For more information, contact 434-2505.

### Youth Golf Registration

The Youth Center is offering Youth Golf. Open to ages 6 – 18. Cost is \$40 per youth; register at the Youth Center by June 19. Volunteer coaches needed. For more information, contact 434-2504.

### NAF Sale

Stop by and shop the NAF Sale at the Auto Skills Center June 19 from 7 – 8 a.m. for active duty only and 8 a.m. until 3 p.m. for everyone with base access. For more information, contact 434-2310.

### Dads Bowl Free

The Bowling Center is offering free bowling for dads June 20. Free shoe rental included. For more information, contact 434-3426.

### Tops In Blue

A free Tops in Blue performance, “Freedom’s Song,” begins at 5 p.m. June 20 at Rent Auditorium on the campus of Mississippi University for Women. Doors will open 4:15 p.m. for military ID holders; 4:30 p.m. for the general public. For more information, contact 434-2504.

### Summer Reading Program

The Base Library is offering a summer reading program for all ages. Register at the library and enjoy a summer of stories, activities, crafts and tons of fun. The program will run until July 23 with a Summer Reading Awards Ceremony at 1 p.m. For more information, contact 434-2934.

### Family Movie at the Pool

Enjoy a free family movie, “Million Dollar Arm,” at Independence Pool June 25. Doors open at 8 p.m. and movie begins at 8:15 p.m. The snack bar will be open; no outside food or drinks are allowed. For more information, contact 434-2310.

3rd Annual CAFB 5K

WETN WILD

Color Run

at Lil Blazer Park

Open to the Public

\$10

per person

FREE

to Military ID Holders

July 11

8:00 a.m.

Register by July 6

This is a one of a kind experience that is less about speed and more about enjoying a color crazy day with your friends and family! Information sheets may be picked up at the CAFB Youth Center or Fitness Center!

Ages 2-80, all fitness levels

You may walk or run

White shirt dress code at the official start line

Non-Military ID holder register at active.com by July 6

Military ID holders register free at the Fitness Center or Youth Center by July 6

For More Information

434-2504

### 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.

### Wood Shop Self Help

Do you need to complete a wood project? The base wood shop is open Saturdays from 10 a.m. – 4 p.m. for only \$4 per hour. For more information, contact 434-7836.

### 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

The Pro Shop at Whispering Pines Golf Course offers a special for lunch Tuesday 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. Transportation one way is \$175 for Birmingham and \$50 for Columbus. Call 434-2505 for more information.

### Hot and Easy to Use

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.

# Gaining ATC roots at Columbus AFB

**Tech. Sgt. Jamerson Watts**

14th Operation Support Squadron

Air Traffic Control is one of the most challenging and rewarding career fields in the U.S. Air Force.

Following Basic Military Training, Airmen attend four months of technical training at Keesler Air Force Base, Mississippi, which incorporates fundamentals and ATC simulation training. After graduation they progress to their first duty station and for many of them it is Columbus AFB.

Columbus AFB is one of the busiest bases for Air Traffic Controllers, consisting of 20 Federal Aviation Administration certified positions between the Control Tower and Radar Approach Control. The

*Columbus AFB is one of the busiest bases for Air Traffic Controllers, consisting of 20 Federal Aviation Administration certified positions between the Control Tower and Radar Approach Control. The average upgrade training time for Tower trainees is ten months and for RAPCON trainees is one year.*

average upgrade training time for Tower trainees is ten months and for RAPCON trainees is one year.

All trainees and certified controllers must pass monthly proficiency tests that include items directed from the FAA, Headquarters Air Education and Training

Command, and locally developed products. It is very challenging because the regulations that govern Air Traffic Control are constantly refined and there is no room for error in maintaining technical expertise. It is especially difficult for newly assigned trainees who have to adapt to the

constant changes while obtaining their various control positions certifications.

The Airfield Operations Flight always has approximately 50 controllers in upgrade and qualification training at any given time and accomplishes over 30 FAA certifications each month.

As NCO in charge of ATC training, I am afforded the opportunity to see the continuous progression of each trainee and controller at Columbus AFB. Many of our controllers PCS or deploy to various locations and continue to support the Air Force mission throughout the world. It gives me a great sense of pride and patriotism witnessing each controller’s progression and knowing they will move on to support the Air Force utilizing the fundamentals learned at Columbus AFB.

# LGBT Month highlights need to practice diversity, inclusion

**Capt. Anna Friscia**

14th Medical Operations Squadron

Diversity and inclusion is something we hear about frequently in the Air Force. The designation of June as a celebration for Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Month is an expression of that call to diversity.

From the founding of our Air Force in 1947, our mission was to diversify and include all races, genders, national origins, and religious affiliations. As time progressed, our modern Air Force now includes sexual orientation as part of that inclusion.

Inclusion allows full participation and contribution to the mission by eliminating implicit and explicit barriers. Prior to the lifting of the “don’t ask, don’t tell” directive by President Obama in 2011, the Air Force and other services did not allow true inclusion of eligible citizens based on their sexual orientation.

Since that historic legislation, gay, lesbian and bisexual members are now provided an equal opportunity to serve. At this time, this does not include individuals with transgender identities. Despite the lifting of DADT, they are not eligible to serve openly.

As we welcome LGBT members to serve without fear of dismissal, we celebrate LGBT month as an opportunity to learn about some of our own Air Force history. In April 2011, a published research study identified 3.5 percent of adults in the United States as LGB and 0.3 percent as transgender. This translates to about nine million people. These are our brothers, sisters, mothers, fathers, friends and co-workers that live and work alongside us and the same people for whom our fellow veterans have made the ultimate sacrifice for in protecting the collective freedom of our nation.

Despite the fear of discharge in the past, many gay

Americans have chosen to serve. One of the first gay service members to purposely “out” himself was an Air Force sergeant named Leonard P. Matlovich (1943-1988). The son of an Air Force sergeant, Matlovich was born in Savannah, Georgia, and lived at various bases throughout the United States.

Entering the Air Force at the age of 19, Matlovich served in Vietnam and was wounded after stepping on a landmine. He continued on active duty and became an Air Force Race Relations instructor, teaching classes throughout the country in the late 1960s and early 1970s.

Eventually, Matlovich became involved with gay activism and decided to come forward to his commanding officer. Despite his exemplary record he was discharged. He chose to continue his activism, becoming the first gay military member on the cover of a 1975 issue of Time magazine.

As a recipient of the Bronze Star and Purple Heart, Matlovich served his country. Committed to the cause of gays serving in the military, he perpetuated this fight by documenting his cause on his tombstone. His gravesite, located in the Congressional Cemetery, reads; “When I was in the military they gave me a medal for killing two men and a discharge for loving one.”

Since Matlovich’s “coming out” there have been numerous individuals either intentionally or unintentionally recognized as gay service members. By recognizing LGBT Month we are not only remembering those veterans who came before us, but also embracing the LGBT members and their families as part of the inclusive and diverse community we call the U. S. Air Force.

Visit [www.columbus.af.mil](http://www.columbus.af.mil) to learn about Columbus AFB agencies and other important information.





U.S. Air Force photo/Airman Daniel Lile

Senior Airman Ian Lorenz, 14th Operations Support Squadron Weather Technician, scans weather monitors on Columbus Air Force Base, Mississippi, for important information. The information weather technicians collect helps keep pilots safe from drastic changes in the weather.



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

The Airfield Systems Flight, or Air Traffic Control and Landing Systems, Ground-to-Air Transmitter and Receiver Site houses radios and other equipment that ATCALS maintains on Columbus Air Force Base, Mississippi. Every sortie uses this equipment to safely arrive to and depart the airfield.

# 14th OSS vital to producing pilots

**Tech. Sgt. Jamerson Watts**

14th OSS Air Traffic Control Training  
NCO in-charge

The 14th Operations Support Squadron is comprised of various career fields that have very different responsibilities, but all come together to equal one amazingly diverse and critically important squadron.

The Weather Flight provides timely, accurate, and tailored weather information for all 14th Flying Training Wing flying squadrons by providing mission execution forecasts, observations, and local expertise to the 26th Operational Weather Squadron. Their scope of responsibility expands to a range of 300 nautical miles. Additionally, they are charged with accomplishing daily briefings for all Columbus Air Force Base flying squadrons and providing more thorough one-on-one briefings for missions to off-base locations.

The Aircrew Flight Equipment Flight fits, inspects, maintains and repairs 100 percent of the 14th FTW's flight gear that connects the aviator to the aircraft. Every sortie incorporates numerous pieces of equipment that have been meticulously scrutinized by AFE personnel to ensure their safety and functionality. AFE is instrumental not only to the wing mission, but also to the safety of our aviators.

The Operations Flight is responsible for synchronization of all wing flying operations to include scheduling, airspace coordination, and aircrew flight records management. Not only does the Operations Flight manage the largest flying hour program in the Air Force, but it also deconflicts airspace schedules at Columbus AFB and throughout the southeast to include Memphis and Atlanta Centers.

Host Aviation Resource Management ensures accountability for 100 percent of the wing's flight records. They are often called the lawyers of flying because they thoroughly review each aircrew member's records to ensure compliance prior to stepping to their aircraft. HARM's global reach is immense as they work closely with other HARM agencies all around the world on a daily basis.

The Airfield Systems Flight, or Air Traffic Control and Landing Systems, is another extremely vital part of the squadron. ATCALS manages and maintains all navigational aids

for Columbus AFB and three remote sites, including almost 200 radios, weather equipment, and various other systems. Every sortie will use numerous pieces of this equipment to safely arrive and depart the airfield.

The final piece directly connecting the 14th OSS to the wing mission is the Airfield Operations Flight, which is accountable for all airfield and air traffic control activities. Airfield Management Operations is responsible for all Columbus AFB runways, coordinating airfield construction, conducting daily runway and lighting inspections, managing

the airfield driving program, and processing all flight plans. The flight's Radar Approach Control and tower consist of over 100 Federal Aviation Administration certified air traffic controllers who safely direct aircraft within a 40 nautical-mile radius from the surface to 23,000 feet. Additionally, they direct all aircraft movement on Columbus AFB and 13 additional satellite airports. The Airfield Operations Flight's teamwork ensures the safety and efficiency of 270,000 operations conducted annually at one of the busiest airfields in the Air Force.

The 14th OSS proudly bolsters all aspects of the 14th FTW mission, and none of this could be accomplished without an exceptional team. Efforts to advance Airmen in the past year have resulted in 50 enlisted Airmen receiving promotions for excelling in their respective career fields. Six squadron members have answered the call of duty and are deployed to various locations throughout the world to feed the fight. Finally, each person within the 14th OSS directly supports aircrew members, sortie execution, and the wing's primary mission of producing pilots.



U.S. Air Force photo/Airman Daniel Lile

Staff Sgt. Laaron Odum, 14th Operations Support Squadron Air Traffic Controller, monitors T-6A Texan II training aircraft as they conduct training missions in the Columbus Air Force Base, Mississippi, Radar Approach Control airspace. Air traffic controllers direct all aircraft movement on Columbus AFB and 13 additional satellite airports.



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

Airman 1st Class Hayden Harrison, 14th Operations Support Squadron Aircrew Flight Equipment Technician, tests a G-suit for the proper pressure on Columbus Air Force Base, Mississippi. AFE fits, inspects, maintains and repairs all of the flight gear that connects the pilot to the aircraft.

