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Columbus Air Force Base, Miss.

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Vol. 39, Issue 36

September 11, 2015

PATRIOT DAY 2015 NEVER FORGET



SEPTEMBER 11, 2001

Weather



News Briefs

Air Force Birthday Ball

Columbus Air Force Base is hosting the Air Force Birthday Ball Sept. 18 at the Trotter Center in Columbus. Social hour begins at 6 p.m. until dinner, which begins at 7 p.m. Guest speaker is Maj. Gen. Richard Clark, 8th Air Force Commander.

Wing Newcomers Orientation

A Wing Newcomers Orientation is scheduled for 8 a.m. - 1 p.m. Sept. 22 in the Kaye Auditorium for newly arrived active-duty and civilian personnel.

Retiree Appreciation Day

Retirees are invited to attend Retiree Appreciation Day 8 a.m. Sept. 26 at the Columbus Air Force Base fire station.

Staff sergeant selects

Congratulations to Columbus Air Force Base's newest staff sergeant selectees from the supplemental release:

David Dulin, 14th Operations Support Squadron
Dawn Edwards, 14th Medical Operations Squadron
Nathaniel Farinas, 14th MDOS
Daniel Koelling, 14th Security Forces Squadron
Tyler Macoubrie, 14th Medical Support Squadron
Chase Montgomery, 14th OSS
Ariel Morgan, 14th OSS
Nickolaus Phifer, 14th Wing Staff Agency Command Post

14TH FLYING TRAINING WING DEPLOYED



As of press time, 39 TEAM BLAZE members are deployed worldwide. Remember to support the Airmen and their families while they are away.

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.

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat/Sun	Long Range Events
14 SAPR Large Group, 1 p.m. @ Kaye	15	16 International Spouses Meet and Greet, 11 a.m. @ Landings	17 15-15 Assignment Night, 5:30 p.m. @ Kaye	18 POW/MIA Remembrance Day Air Force Birthday Ball, 6 p.m. @ Trotter Center	19/20	Sept. 28: Anheuser-Busch safety presentation Sept. 28: 14th FTW dissimilar photo Sept. 30: Wing Down Day —Wing photo — Wing picnic — Enlisted Promotions Oct. 2: SUPT Class 15-15 Graduation Oct. 3-4: Autocross Oct. 12: Columbus Day Holiday Oct. 20: Newcomers Orientation Brief Oct. 23: SUPT Class 16-01 graduation Oct. 30: Enlisted Promotions Oct. 30: Third Quarterly Awards Ceremony Oct. 30: Costume Dorm Dinner Oct. 31: Zombie Run Oct. 31: Halloween Trick or Treat
21 IFF 15-LBC Graduation, 4:49 p.m. @ 49 FTS	22 Wing Newcomers Orientation, 8 a.m. @ Kaye	23	24	25 First Sergeant Steak Burn, @ Fire Station	26/27 26th-Retiree Appreciation Day, 8 a.m. @ Fire Station	

Sept. 11

The Classic Music Festival is scheduled to host a bevy of R&B stars including Anthony Hamilton, Fantasia, Johnny Gill and Avery*Sunshine starting at 7:30 p.m. at Landers Center 4560 Venture Drive, Southaven, Mississippi. Ticket prices range from \$57+ depending on seats. For more information, visit online at landerscenter.com.

Sept. 12

The Tennessee Williams Tribute and tour of Victorian homes is scheduled to begin in downtown Columbus. For more information call 328-5413 or visit online at muw.edu/tennesseewilliams.

Sept. 13

World Wrestling Entertainment is scheduled for a live performance starting at 5 p.m. at the Bancorp South Arena 375 East Main Street in Tupelo, Mississippi. The WWE event will feature Randy Orton, Mr. Money in the Bank Sheamus, Big Show, Intercontinental Champion Ryback, and Neville. Ticket prices range from \$18 to \$100+ depending on seats.

Sept. 17

The Price is Right gameshow is scheduled for a live performance starting at 7:30 p.m. at the Bancorp South Arena 375 East Main Street in Tupelo, Mississippi. The live event is the hit interactive stage show that gives eligible individuals the chance to “Come On Down” to win. Prizes may include appliances, vacations and possibly a new car. Ticket prices range from \$33.50 + depending on seats. For more information, visit online at bcsarena.com.

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.

Transportation

For Sale: 2005 Honda CBR 600

motorcycle, 4,500 miles. Comes with two medium-size helmets and a medium-size riding jacket. \$4,500 or best offer. For more information, call 497-2120.

For Sale: 2001 Toyota Corolla LE, 130,000+ miles, \$2,500 or best offer. For more information, please call 574-7988.

Camper for sale: 31 ft., comes with bumper pull large tip-out, two TVs, dishes, and cooking pots and pans. Reduced price of \$7,500. For more information, please call 251-7286.

Miscellaneous

For Sale: ACER ASPIRE 15.6 inch Laptop Computer in excellent condition with Windows 10, Norton Internet Security, 500 GB Hard Drive, 4GB DDR3 Memory, plus numerous other features and programs for \$195. For more information call 327-1205.

For Sale: Dr Dre Beatbox Speaker new in Box, \$220 or best offer. For more information call 425-9290.

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Track Select

Capt. Daniel Petrella	T-1	
1st Lt. John Nickerson	T-1	
2nd Lt. Daniel Bailey	T-1	Leverette Award
2nd Lt. Steven Bretscher	T-1	2nd Lt. Austin Hornsby
2nd Lt. Christopher Champion	T-1	
2nd Lt. Michael Craig	T-38	
2nd Lt. Matthew Croghan	T-38	
2nd Lt. Benjamin Dewar	T-1	Top Guns
2nd Lt. Chad Douglas	T-1	Contact:
2nd Lt. Matthew Gabreski	T-1	2nd Lt. Michael Craig
2nd Lt. Timothy Holm	Helo	
2nd Lt. Austin Hornsby	T-38	Instrument:
2nd Lt. William Jones	T-1	2nd Lt. Michael Thomas
2nd Lt. Connor King	T-38	
2nd Lt. Andrew Kmiec	T-1	Formation:
2nd Lt. Zachary Mangers	T-1	2nd Lt. Austin Hornsby
2nd Lt. Nichole McCarthy	T-1	
2nd Lt. Dennis Parker	T-1	
2nd Lt. Ben Scott	T-38	
2nd Lt. Mark Skurdahl	T-1	
2nd Lt. Kevin Tanous	T-1	
2nd Lt. Michael Thomas	T-1	

16-07

Save the Date

Trotter Convention Center
Friday, Sept. 18, 2015

2015

Social hour begins at 6 p.m.
Dinner begins at 7 p.m.

Columbus Air Force Base
brings you the

AIR FORCE BALL

A TRADITION OF HONOR ★ A LEGACY OF VALOR

Guest speaker is Maj. Gen. Richard M. Clark, Commander, Eighth Air Force.
Day care is provided at both the CDC and Youth Center from 6 p.m. to 10 p.m.

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 (16-09)	-3.18 days	-1.68 days	Oct. 21	48th (15-15)	-0.51 days	0.52 days	Oct. 2	49th (15-LBC)	-1.57 days	0.68 days	Sept. 21	T-6	660	551	27,338
41st (16-08)	2.87 days	1.37 days	Sept. 28	50th (15-15)	-1.49 days	1.00 days	Oct. 2					T-1	195	209	14,727
												T-38	195	211	8,371
												IFF	100	103	3,953
The graduation speaker is Retired Col. Scott Manning, former Commander of Air Force Reserve Officer Training Corp Detachment 009 at Yale University.															

U.S. Air Force photo/Elizabeth Owens
Col. John Nichols, 14th Flying Training Wing Commander, and Chief Master Sgt. Rita Felton, 14th Flying Training Wing Command Chief, stand with 16 senior airmen who graduated from Airman Leadership School Sept. 3 at Lion Hills in Columbus, Mississippi. The five-week-long professional military education course armed the senior airmen with the skills and knowledge needed to perform their duties as front-line supervisors in the Air Force.

Columbus AFB advanced Airmen to become tomorrow's leaders

Airman 1st Class Daniel Lile

14th Flying Training Wing Public Affairs

Sixteen Team BLAZE Airmen graduated from Airman Leadership School during a banquet ceremony Sept. 3 at Lion Hills in Columbus, Mississippi.

The five-week-long professional military education course armed the senior airmen with the skills and knowledge needed to perform their duties as front-line supervisors in the Air Force, as well as prepared them to become future NCOs.

The graduates are:
Senior Airman Johnathan Almaraz
Senior Airman Charles Basset
Senior Airman Calvin Blakeney
Senior Airman Calvin Criger
Senior Airman Kwadwo Dankyi
Senior Airman Dillon Freeman
Senior Airman Bridget Holling
Senior Airman Daniel Koelling

Senior Airman Anthony Parsons
Senior Airman Beret Proctor
Senior Airman Larry Roy
Senior Airman Omari Slaughter
Senior Airman Darin Smith
Senior Airman Christopher Tarantino
Senior Airman Ryan Werner
Senior Airman Deshaun Williams

While the whole class worked together to overcome challenges and learn all they could, some Airmen outperformed others and were awarded for their hard work. The award winners are:
John L. Levitow award: Senior Airman Beret Proctor
Commandant award: Senior Airman Calvin Blakeney
Academic Achievement award: Senior Airman Bridget Holling
Distinguished Graduate award: Senior Airman Calvin Blakeney

Team BLAZE members show camaraderie during Team Cohesion Challenge



U.S. Air Force photos/Airman 1st Class Daniel Lile

More than 30 Team BLAZE members participated in the Team Cohesion Challenge Sept. 2 on Columbus Air Force Base, Mississippi. The athletes ran between 7 and 10 miles and completed numerous exercises and teamwork events over the span of five hours. The challenge was sponsored by the Air Force Association.



Team BLAZE members participate in the Team Cohesion Challenge Sept. 2 on Columbus Air Force Base, Mississippi. The athletes ran between 7 and 10 miles and completed numerous exercises and teamwork events over the span of five hours.



Participants in the Team Cohesion Challenge do push-ups while being doused by a fire hydrant Sept. 2 on Columbus Air Force Base, Mississippi. More than 30 Team BLAZE members participated in the Team Cohesion Challenge.

14th MDG Corner: Have medical questions? Call TRICARE Nurse Advice Line

Capt. Michelle Lempke

14th Medical Operations Squadron
Health Care Integrator

Sometimes it is difficult to know when to seek medical help for acute health problems, so having access to professional advice at a moment's notice is invaluable.

The Military Health System's new Nurse Advice Line for TRICARE beneficiaries does just that. Since late April 2014, TRICARE beneficiaries in the continental United States, Alaska and Hawaii can call the NAL toll-free, 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

The NAL is a team of registered nurses who are available to answer a variety of urgent healthcare questions. They can help you decide whether self-care is the best option or if it is better to see a healthcare provider. There will always be a live person on the line to address patient concerns.

When calling the NAL, a customer service representative will verify the beneficiary's eligibility through the Defense Enrollment and Eligibility Reporting System. Beneficiaries with an acute health care concern will be connected with a registered nurse who will ask a series of standard questions to determine the best course of action.

The NAL offers a variety of solutions for all TRICARE beneficiaries. For pediatric issues, the NAL will route the beneficiary to a pediatric nurse. If follow-up is necessary or requested, the NAL will call the beneficiary back to check the child's status a few hours later. The NAL will make same-day appointments or next-day appointments, if appropriate, with the beneficiary's primary care manager for TRICARE Prime beneficiaries who are enrolled to Military Treatment Facilities. If a same-day appointment is not available, the NAL will direct the beneficiary to the closest urgent care center and inform the PCM of the referral to avoid point-of-service bills. All other TRICARE beneficiaries who are not enrolled to a MTF will receive professional health advice about their urgent health concern.

Beneficiaries can still call their PCM or clinic, but the NAL is another option for beneficiaries to access the care they need and want in a timely fashion. To access the NAL, dial 434-2273, option 2 then option 1, or 1-800-TRICARE (1-800-874-2273), Option 1 if you are traveling out of the area.



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Total force MSgt, MSgt-select 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, 2015, 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 closeout 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 the myPers website. Individuals who do not have a myPers account can request one by following these instructions on the Air Force Retirees Services website.



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- 10' x 20' - \$65
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Retiree Affairs: Did you know...?

Retirees, did you know under the Affordable Care Act, all Americans including all military members and their eligible family members must have health care coverage that meets a minimum standard called minimum essential coverage or pay a fee. Your TRICARE coverage meets the minimum essential coverage requirement under the ACA. For more information contact Capt. Carmella Essien at 434-2380 or your Retiree Activities Office at 434-3120.



Travis AFB welcomes hero home

By Senior Airman Nicole Leidholm
60th Air Mobility Wing Public Affairs

TRAVIS AIR FORCE BASE, Calif. — Airman 1st Class Spencer Stone, the Airman who helped foil a terrorist attack on a train in France Aug. 21, arrived at Travis Air Force Base Sept. 3, with his mother and brother by his side.

“We’re thrilled to welcome A1C Spencer Stone back to America,” said Col. Joel Jackson, the 60th Air Mobility Wing commander. “He’s here at Travis Air Force Base for continued medical care and rest and recuperation with his family in the local area. We ask that everyone please respect the Stone family’s privacy as he continues to heal.”

“We’re thrilled to welcome A1C Spencer Stone back to America,” said Col. Joel Jackson, the 60th Air Mobility Wing commander.

Stone returned home on a KC-10 Extender from Germany with 25 redeployers from Southwest Asia and was greeted by about 300 Airmen and their families from the base.

“We’re extremely proud of A1C Stone; it takes tremendous courage and selflessness to place others’ safety above your own — he put into action our core value of ‘service before self,’” said Chief Master Sgt. Alan Boling, the 60th AMW command chief. “Again, we are extremely proud of these men for their willingness to take action and stop what could have been a terrible tragedy.”

Stone was previously assigned to the 60th Medical Operations Squadron pediatrics flight as an aerospace medical services technician.

“A1C Stone is an energetic medical technician and I’m sure he was hoping for more ‘action’ than he found in the pediatric clinic as his first duty section,” said Master Sgt. Tanya Hubbard, the 60th MDOS family medicine residency and pediatric clinics su-



Airman 1st Class Spencer Stone, the Airman who helped foil a terrorist attack on a train in France Aug. 21, arrives at Travis Air Force Base, Calif., Sept. 3, 2015. Stone was greeted by hundreds of Airmen including Col. Joel Jackson, the 60th Air Mobility Wing commander, and Chief Master Sgt. Alan Boling, the 60th AMW command chief. He will receive continued medical treatment for his injuries at David Grant USAF Medical Center.

perintendent. “However, he fit into our team seamlessly and always had a great attitude. He is a hard worker and I was happy he was part of our team.”

Hubbard added that Stone’s Air Force training influenced how the events in France played out.

“I think his awareness training helped him to be sensitive to potential dangers and kept him on his toes as he toured throughout Europe,” Hubbard said. “I’m sure that when it came down to the moment, he was able to act on impulse due to those protection skills. In the end I believe it was the core values, Air Force and personal, that guided him that day.”

Stone’s life forever changed two weeks ago when he and his childhood friends, Oregon National Guard Spc. Aleksander Skarlatos and Anthony Sadler, a Sacramento State college student, were on vacation when an armed gunman entered their train carrying an assault rifle, a handgun and a box cutter. The three friends, with the help of a British passenger, subdued the gunman after his rifle jammed.

“Our Airmen live in an environment of constant change, we learn to adapt quickly and take action; fortunately, Stone’s experience and training allowed him to put these lessons into action onboard the train,” Boling said. “Stone and his friends did what they

thought was right and stopped a dangerous attack and for that we thank them. We wish Stone and the others who were injured a speedy recovery.”

Stone is currently an ambulance service technician with the 65th MDOS stationed at Lajes Field, Azores. The Sacramento, California, native will be reassigned to Travis AFB in October.

“We are all very proud of A1C Stone,” Hubbard said. “He is humble and will tell you that he doesn’t deserve all of the fuss, but that’s what makes him special. He acted on survival instincts, but he is naturally a protector and we’re thankful that he was in that place at that time.”

Produce Pilots, Advance Airmen, Feed the Fight

Produce Pilots, Advance Airmen, Feed the Fight

Retiree Appreciation Day

Saturday, September 26, 2015

At the McAllister Fire Department

Call the Retiree Affairs Office Now at 434-3120 to RSVP for this event. Early Registration is required due to limited space.

Guest Speaker
Mr. John F. Merkle
Tuscaloosa, Ala. VA Medical Center

September is Suicide Prevention Month

Know Your Wingmen 24/7/365 and STAY ENGAGED!

www.AirForceMedicine.AF.MIL/SuicidePrevention

www.WingmanOnline.org

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BLAZE Hangar Tails: T-38 Talon

Mission

The T-38 Talon is a twin-engine, high-altitude, supersonic jet trainer used in a variety of roles because of its design, economy of operations, ease of maintenance, high performance and exceptional safety record. Air Education and Training Command is the primary user of the T-38 for joint specialized undergraduate pilot training. Air Combat Command, Air Force Materiel Command and the National Aeronautics and Space Administration also use the T-38A in various roles.

Features

The T-38 has swept wings, a streamlined fuselage and tricycle landing gear with a steerable nose wheel. Two independent hydraulic systems power the ailerons, rudder and other flight control surfaces. Critical aircraft components are waist high and can be easily reached by maintenance crews.

The T-38C incorporates a “glass cockpit” with integrated avionics displays, head-up display and an electronic “no drop bomb” scoring system. The AT-38B has a gun sight and practice bomb dispenser. The T-38 needs as little as 2,300 feet (695.2 meters) of runway to take off and can climb from sea level to nearly 30,000 feet (9,068 meters) in one minute. T-38s modified by the propulsion modernization program have approximately 19 percent more thrust, reducing takeoff distance by 9 percent.

Background

Air Education and Training Command uses the T-38C to prepare pilots for front-line fighter and bomber aircraft such as the F-15E Strike Eagle, F-15C Eagle, F-16 Fighting Falcon, B-1B Lancer, A-10 Thunderbolt and F-22 Raptor.

The Talon first flew in 1959. More than 1,100 were delivered to the Air Force between 1961 and 1972 when production ended. As the T-38 fleet has aged, specific airframe, engine and system components have been modified or replaced. Pacer Classic is the name given to a sustainment program that integrates essential modifications, and includes major structural replacements into one process.

AETC began receiving T-38C models in 2001 as part of the Avionics Upgrade Program. T-38C models will also undergo a propulsion modernization program which replaces major engine components to enhance reliability and main-



Four Columbus Air Force Base T-38s fly in formation Sept. 22, 2014, near Columbus Air Force Base, Mississippi. The T-38 Talon is a twin-engine, high-altitude, supersonic jet trainer used in a variety of roles because of its design, economy of operations, ease of maintenance, high performance and exceptional safety record.



U.S. Air Force photo Illustration/2nd Lt. Adam McMurray and Airman 1st Class Daniel Lile

A 49th Fighter Training Squadron T-38 Talon rests on Columbus Air Force Base, Mississippi, after a day of flying. Air Education and Training Command is the primary user of the T-38 for joint specialized undergraduate pilot training.

tainability, and an engine inlet/injector modification to increase available takeoff thrust. These upgrades and modifications, with the Pacer Classic program, should extend the service life of T-38s to 2020.

Advanced JSUPT students fly the T-38C in aerobatics, formation, night, instrument and cross-country navigation training.

Test pilots and flight test engineers are trained in T-38s at the U.S. Air Force Test Pilot School at Edwards Air Force Base, Calif. Air Force Materiel Command uses the T-38 to test experimental equipment such as electrical and weapon systems.

Pilots from most North Atlantic Treaty Organization countries train in the T-38 at Sheppard AFB, Texas, through the Euro-NATO Joint Jet Pilot Training Program.

The National Aeronautics and Space Administration uses T-38 aircraft as trainers for astronauts and as observers and chase planes on programs such as the space shuttle.

General Characteristics

- Primary Function:** Advanced jet pilot trainer
- Builder:** Northrop Corp.
- Power Plant:** Two General Electric J85-GE-5 turbojet engines with afterburners
- Thrust:** 2,050 pounds dry thrust; 2,900 with afterburners
- Thrust (with PMP):** 2,200 pounds dry thrust; 3,300 with afterburners
- Length:** 46 feet, 4 inches (14 meters)
- Height:** 12 feet, 10 inches (3.8 meters)
- Wingspan:** 25 feet, 3 inches (7.6 meters)
- Speed:** 812 mph (Mach 1.08 at sea level)
- Ceiling:** Above 55,000 feet (16,764 meters)
- Maximum Takeoff Weight:** 12,093 pounds (5,485 kilograms)
- Range:** 1,093 miles
- Armament:** T-38A/C: none; AT-38B: provisions for practice bomb dispenser
- Unit Cost:** \$756,000 (1961 constant dollars)
- Crew:** Two, student and instructor
- Date Deployed:** March 1961
- Inventory:** Active force, 546; ANG, 0; Reserve 0

Columbus AFB is great place to serve

Lt. Col. Larry George
43rd Flying Training Squadron Commander

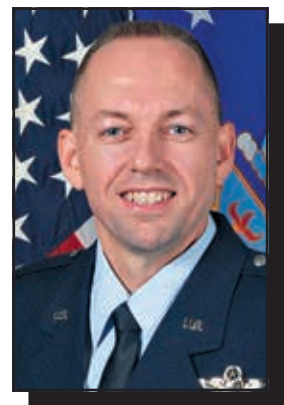
As a reservist in the 43rd Flying Training Squadron, I have had the privilege of serving at Columbus Air Force Base for the last 13 years.

While the concept of remaining at one location for such an extended period of time may sound foreign to a lot of you, this is not uncommon for many reservists and guardsmen.

Prior to joining the reserves, I served on active duty in the Air Force for 11 years and like many of you was stationed at various other locations throughout the United States. I would like to provide you with a “seasoned” perspective of why I think Columbus AFB is a great place to serve.

First, we are wholeheartedly supported by the local community. This is not always the case, especially for a base that flies as many sorties as we do. Our positive relationship with the Columbus community is critical as it certainly affects the quality of life of Airmen outside the front gates.

Columbus has adopted the motto of “The friendly city” and I could not agree more as their support for our base seems



Columbus has adopted the motto of “The friendly city” and I could not agree more as their support for our base seems personal and sincere. As one of the main economic contributors to the area, local leaders, businesses, and citizens truly like us being here and that does make a difference.

personal and sincere. As one of the main economic contributors to the area, local leaders, businesses, and citizens truly like us being here and that does make a difference. I cannot tell you how many times I have been in uniform off base and have been approached by local citizens thanking me for my service. I am sure this is a common occurrence experienced by many Team BLAZE Airmen.

Second, Columbus AFB has a mission we all can be extremely proud of which is vital to the defense of our great nation. Did you know Columbus AFB produces almost one third of all new Air Force pilots every year? Many of those pilots begin flying operational missions throughout the world in just a matter of months once leaving Columbus AFB.

The foundations forged here will remain with those young pilots throughout their Air Force careers, and every member of Team BLAZE plays a significant part in that evolution. This is a huge responsibility which I believe the base welcomes and performs in an outstanding manner. This base also contributes in ways other than just training pilots. At any given time, numerous Columbus AFB Airmen are deployed worldwide “Feeding the Fight” for a variety of Department of Defense missions.

Third, Columbus AFB is located in a region which is rapidly growing, has a low cost of living, and is centrally located to many areas of interest in the south. Over the last several years, we have seen remarkable business growth in the area.

With several new hotels, many more nationally known restaurants and additional commercial shopping establishments, Columbus is offering more now than ever before. The beach is just over four hours to the south, Atlanta is four hours to the east, and Memphis is three hours to the north. For you college football fans out there, we are in the heart of SEC country. Of course, you will have to decide if that is a positive or negative.

In conclusion, serving at Columbus AFB can be a rewarding and enjoyable experience for you just as it has been for me. There is no such thing as the perfect assignment. However, if you stay positive, remain proud of the mission we do here and take advantage of all Columbus and the surrounding area has to offer, maybe in the end you will agree Columbus AFB is indeed a great place to serve.

Bring the whole family for an international lunch break!
Meet & Greet
September 16 @ 11am
Columbus Housing Community Center

International Spouses Group
CAFB

New International Spouses, we want to meet you!

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.



First operational F-35As arrive at Hill AFB

Micah Garbarino
75th Air Base Wing Public Affairs

HILL AIR FORCE BASE, Utah — The Air Force ushered in a new era of combat air power today as Hill Air Force Base received the service's first two operational F-35As.

Hill's active duty 388th Fighter Wing and Reserve 419th Fighter Wing will be the first combat-coded units to fly and maintain the Air Force's newest fifth-generation fighter aircraft.

“Make no mistake, we're built for this. We will deliver the combat capability that our nation so desperately needs to meet tomorrow's threats,” 388th Fighter Wing commander, Col. David B. Lyons, told the crowd of Airmen and community members.

Lyons, who flew one of the F-35s to Hill from Lockheed Martin's production facility in Fort Worth, Texas, highlighted the jets stealth ability, advanced technology, avionics and sensor fusion, which allow pilots the flexibility to operate in “contested environments” and strike “tough to reach” targets.

Hill has been called the “ideal home” for the F-35 because of its proximity to the Utah Test and Training Range and Hill's Ogden Air Logistics Complex, which performs F-35 depot maintenance and modifications. The integration of the active duty and reserve fighter wings provides increased flexibility and combat surge capability.

“This is a great day in the history of Hill Air Force Base. We have to have these aircraft to achieve air dominance in the future for the United States,” said Col. Bryan Radliff, 419th Fighter Wing commander. “We are extremely proud to be a part of this association.”

Since the basing announcement in 2013, Hill has spent more than \$120 million and completed numerous renovation and construction projects to prepare for F-35 operations.

“The reason we're here today is because of our Airmen, civilians, con-



U.S. Air Force photo/Alex R. Lloyd

The first two operational F-35A Lightning II aircraft arrive at Hill Air Force Base, Utah, Sept. 2, 2015. The jets were piloted by Col. David Lyons, 388th Fighter Wing commander, and Lt. Col. Yosef Morris, 34th Fighter Squadron director of operations. Hill will receive up to 70 additional combat-coded F-35s on a staggered basis through 2019. The jets will be flown and maintained by Hill Airmen assigned to the active-duty 388th Fighter Wing and its Reserve component 419th Fighter Wing.

tractors and outstanding community who stood behind us 100 percent,” said Col. Ron Jolly, 75th Air Base Wing commander. “We know the capabilities of this aircraft. We are on the cutting edge and we're very proud to be a part of that cutting edge.”

The 388th and 419th Fighter wings were also the first units in the Air Force to fly combat-coded F-16s when they entered the fleet.

The wings will receive one to two F-35s per month until 72 aircraft have been delivered.

Airmen at Hill are eager to get their hands on the new jet said Lt. Col. Darin Dronoff, chief of the F-35 program integration office for the 388th FW.

Both the 388th and 419th have trained F-35 pilots ready to begin flying the new jets, and there are more pilots and maintainers currently in training.

The wings will take a week to familiarize themselves with the aircraft,

receive parts and begin tracking the aircraft in a maintenance database.

“The plan is to start flying after Labor Day. We'll start by flying twice a week, but that will slowly progress as we receive more aircraft and training progresses,” said Dronoff.

While flying won't start for a week, training for maintainers starts immediately - including the Airmen who will be towing the first aircraft from the ramp to the hangar, Dronoff said.

“Everyone touching the aircraft is a formally trained F-35 Airman - hand-selected crews from pilots to maintainers to back-shop people,” said Dronoff. “But, we're also training Airmen brand new to the F-35. We're taking advantage of every training opportunity because this is the first time many of them have had their hands on an F-35.”

The base will hold a formal ceremony to commemorate the arrival of the F-35 in mid-October.



U.S. Air Force photo/Tech. Sgt. Ryan Crane

An F-22 Raptor takes off from Amari Air Base, Estonia, Sept. 4, 2015. The F-22s have previously deployed to both the Pacific and Southwest Asia for Airmen to train in a realistic environment while testing partner nations' ability to host advanced aircraft like the F-22. The F-22s are deployed from the 95th Fighter Squadron at Tyndall Air Force Base, Fla.

F-22s arrive in Estonia

U.S. Air Forces in Europe and Air Forces Africa Public Affairs

ÄMARI AIR BASE, Estonia — Two F-22 Raptors and a KC-135 Stratotanker arrived at Ämari Air Base, Estonia, Sept. 5.

The F-22s and approximately 20 supporting Airmen are from the 95th Fighter Squadron at Tyndall Air Force Base, Florida. The KC-135 is from the 100th Air Refueling Wing at Royal Air Force Mildenhall, England.

This forward deployment of the Raptors is part of the inaugural F-22 training deployment to Europe and is funded by the European Reassurance Initiative, which provides support to bolster the security of NATO allies and partners in Europe while demonstrating the U.S. commitment to regional and global security. The F-22s will remain at Ämari AB for a brief period of time before returning to Spangdahlem AB, Germany, to continue their training deployment.

The F-22 deployments to Spangdahlem AB, Łask AB, Poland, and now Ämari AB prove that European bases and other NATO installations can host fifth-generation fighters while also affording the chance for familiarization flight training within the European theater.

This F-22 forward deployment is conducted in coordination with our Estonian allies and is a demonstration of the continued commitment to the collective security of NATO and dedication to the enduring peace and stability of the region.

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



T-1A Jayhawk

SUPT Class 15-14 earns silver wings



T-38C Talon



Capt. Miguel Santibanez
Miami Beach, Fla.
KC-135, Seymour AFB, N.C.



1st Lt. Caden Ho
Singapore
Singapore



1st Lt. Masaki Hayakawa
Kobe Japan, Hyogo
UH-60J, Japan

Twenty-one officers have prevailed during a year of training, earning the right to become Air Force pilots.

Specialized Undergraduate Pilot Training Class 15-14 graduates at 10 a.m. today during a ceremony at the Kaye Auditorium. Retired Col. Scott Manning, former Commander of Air Force Reserve Officer Training Corp Detachment 009 at Yale University, is the graduation guest speaker.

Students will receive their silver pilot's wings at the ceremony, and students who excelled in their respective training tracks are recognized.

1st Lt. Caden Ho, T-38, and 2nd Lt. Paul Kenter, T-1, received the Air Education and Training Command Commander's Trophy for being the most outstanding students overall in their classes.

The Air Force Association Award was presented to 1st Lt. Caden Ho, T-38, and 2nd Lt. Matthew Miller, T-1. The award is presented to a graduate in each flight who excelled in training and typified the tenets of the association; promoting aerospace power and a strong national defense.

1st Lt. Caden Ho, T-38, 2nd Lt. Paul Kenter, T-1, and 2nd Lt. Travis Tate, T-1, were named the distinguished graduates of SUPT Class 15-14.

The 52-week pilot training program begins with a six-week preflight phase of academics and physiological training to prepare students for flight. The second phase, primary training, is conducted in the single-engine, turboprop T-6A Texan II at Columbus AFB, Miss. Students learn aircraft flight characteristics, emergency procedures, takeoff and landing procedures, aerobatics and

formation flying. Students also practice night, instrument and cross country navigation flying.

Primary training takes approximately 23 weeks and includes 254.4 hours of ground training, 27.3 hours in the flight simulator and 89 hours in the T-6A aircraft.

After primary training, students select, by order of merit, advanced training in the fighter-bomber or airlift-tanker track.

Both tracks are designed to best train pilots for successful transition to their follow-on aircraft and mission.

Advanced training for the fighter track is done in the T-38C Talon, a tandem-seat, twin-engine supersonic jet. T-38 training emphasizes formation, advanced aerobatics and navigation. Training takes approximately 26 weeks and includes 381 hours of ground training, 31.6 hours in the flight simulator and 118.7 hours in the T-38C aircraft.

The airlift-tanker track uses the T-1A Jayhawk, the military version of a multi-place Beech Jet 400 business jet. Instruction centers on crew coordination and management, instrument training, cross-country flying and simulated refueling and airdrop missions. Training takes about 26 weeks and includes 185 hours of ground training, 53.6 hours in the flight simulator and 76.4 hours in the T-1A.

Each class is partnered with business or civic organizations during their year of training. This program is designed to foster closer ties between the community and Columbus AFB. Today, each student will be given a set of pilot wings with their names engraved on the back as a token of good luck from their partners. SUPT Class 15-14 pilot partners are Callaway Orthodontics and 4-County Electric Power.



1st Lt. Samuel Olson
Spanish Fork, Utah
KC-135, Fairchild AFB, Wash.



1st Lt. Nnanna Peter
Onicha, Ebonyi
F-7, Nigeria



1st Lt. Daryl Pung
Singapore
Singapore



2nd Lt. Daniel Aceti
New Hartford, N.Y.
MQ-9, Cannon AFB, N.M.



2nd Lt. Evan Aldinger
St. Simons, Ga.
HC-130J, Moody AFB, Ga.



2nd Lt. Hamzah Al Zahrani
Albaha
Saudi Arabia



2nd Lt. Darina Deneva
Plovdiv, Bulgaria
Mi-17, Bulgaria



2nd Lt. Ben Deschaine
Sabattus, Maine
E-3, Kaden AB, Japan



2nd Lt. Gregory Frattantaro
Warminster, Pa.
KC-10, McGuire, N.J.



2nd Lt. Paul Kenter
Effingham, Ill.
CV-22, Hurlburt Field, Fla.



2nd Lt. Matthew Miller
Albany, N.Y.
MQ-9, Syracuse ANG, N.Y.



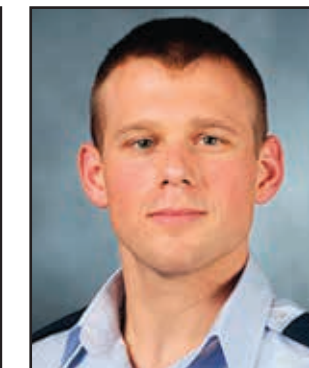
2nd Lt. John Scott
Crystal Lake, Ill.
F-16, Luke AFB, Ariz.



2nd Lt. Taylor Smith
Niceville, Fla.
MQ-9, Cannon AFB, N.M.



2nd Lt. Travis Tate
Atlanta, Ga.
C-130, Dobbins AFB, Ga.



2nd Lt. Sean Zarsky
Austin, Texas
T-1, Columbus AFB, Miss.



2nd Lt. Jackie Barrett
Arlington, Tenn.
KC-135, Key Field, Miss.



2nd Lt. Dane Christensen
Elk Grove Village, Ill.
KC-135, Milwaukee ANG, Wis.



2nd Lt. Jonathan Daniels
Smithfield, N.C.
C-17, Charleston AFB, S.C.