

Weather

Thursday  Thunderstorms High 52°F Low 41°F	Friday  Snow High 35°F Low 32°F
Saturday  Partly Cloudy High 36°F Low 26°F	Sunday  Sunny High 44°F Low 28°F

Forecast provided by the 14th OSS Weather Flight

News Briefs

Quarterly Awards Ceremony

The fourth Quarterly Awards Ceremony is scheduled for 2 p.m. Jan. 29 in Kaye Auditorium.

Enlisted Promotion Ceremony

The next Columbus Air Force Base Enlisted Promotions ceremony is at 3 p.m. Jan. 29 in Kaye Auditorium.

Annual Awards Ceremony

The Annual Awards Ceremony is scheduled for 7 p.m. Feb. 5 at the Columbus Club.

Inside



Feature 8

SUPT Class 16-04 graduates at 10 a.m. today in the Kaye Auditorium.



U.S. Air Force photo/Elizabeth Owens

Maj. Gen. James Hecker, 19th Air Force Commander, and Chief Master Sgt. Robert Boyer, 19th Air Force Command Chief, are greeted by Col. John Nichols, 14th Flying Training Wing Commander, and Chief Master Sgt. Rita Felton, 14th FTW Command Chief, upon their arrival to Columbus Air Force Base, Mississippi, Jan. 20. During their visit, they met with Airmen from across the wing and toured newly-renovated base facilities.

19th AF leadership visits Team BLAZE Airmen

14th Flying Training Wing Public Affairs

The 19th Air Force Commander and Command Chief visited Columbus Air Force Base, Mississippi, Jan. 20-21 to speak with Airmen stationed here and see the mission of the 14th

Flying Training Wing firsthand.


Maj. Gen. James B. Hecker and Chief Master Sgt. Robert Boyer toured several Columbus facilities including the Tower, L-3 maintenance, Fitness Center, Koritz Clinic, Firing Range

See **HECKER** 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 (16-13)	2.02 days	1.93 days	Feb. 16	48th (16-04)	0.00 days	1.04 days	Jan. 22	49th (16-DBC)	-1.19 days	-0.78 days	Feb. 1	T-6	1,141	1,291	8,230
41st (16-14)	5.10 days	4.37 days	Mar. 10	50th (16-04)	0.00 days	3.04 days	Jan. 22					T-1	504	516	2,856
												T-38	440	500	2,807
												IFF	232	237	1,200

The graduation speaker is Retired Lt. Gen. Douglas Owens, former Air Education and Training Command Vice Commander.



14TH FLYING TRAINING WING DEPLOYED

As of press time, 40 TEAM BLAZE members are deployed worldwide. Remember to support the Airmen and their families while they are away.

Deployment numbers provided by the Installation Personnel Readiness Office.

HECKER
(Continued from page 1)

and more.

Hecker and Boyer also hosted an all call for Team BLAZE members to introduce themselves and speak about the 19th AF and what the future holds, which was followed by questions

from the audience.

The 19th Air Force trains more than 30,000 U.S. and allied students annually. The training ranges from entry-level undergraduate flying training through advanced combat crew training, and ultimately provides fully qualified aircrew personnel to the warfighting commands.



End of Day Security Checklist

- ☒ Activation of Intrusion Detection System (IDS) alarm sensors where applicable
- ☒ ALL classified material has been properly stored and tops of safes are cleared
- ☒ Removal of CAC Cards from workstations
- ☒ ALL windows, doors or other openings are properly secured
- ☒ Waste paper baskets are cleared of papers
- ☒ Sign off your Activity Security Checklist (SF 701) and/or Security Container Check Sheet (SF 700)

Contact your Unit Security Manager for more information

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat/Sun	Long Range Events
25	26	27	28	29	30/31	Feb. 9: Wing Newcomers Orientation Feb. 10: Blood Drive Feb. 12: POW Smitty Harris Repatriation (1973) Feb. 12-13: Bishop Neal Buckon visit Feb. 15: Washington's Birthday Holiday Feb. 19: SUPT Class 16-05 Graduation Mar. 8: Wing Newcomers Orientation Mar. 11: SUPT Class 16-06 Graduation Mar. 29: Wing Newcomers Orientation Mar. 31: 14th STUS Change of Command Apr. 8: SUPT Class 16-07 Graduation Apr. 19: Wing Newcomers Orientation
1	2 Groundhog Day	3	4	5 Annual Awards Ceremony, 7 p.m. @ Club	6/7 7th - Super Bowl Party, 4:30 p.m. @ Club	

Silver Wings

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Submission Deadline

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

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Mon., Jan. 25, 2016 · 5:30 p.m.
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News Around Town

Jan. 23
The WCBI-Main Street Columbus Bridal Showcase is scheduled to begin at 9 a.m. for the morning session and 1 p.m. for the afternoon session at the remodeled Trotter Convention Center in downtown Columbus. Special fashion shows emceed by WCBI News Anchor Aundrea Self and Joey Barnes start at 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. All brides can register to win great door prizes including a grand prize from Rick's Furniture. Tickets are \$10 and are available at the door. For information, visit online at wcbi.com or contact Brennan Dockery at 245-0101.

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@us.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

Wanted: Looking for used vehicle; compact four-door with no more than 40,000 miles in excellent condition, immediate availability required. If available please call 329-1843.

Miscellaneous

For Sale: Gold's Gym Space Saver Treadmill for sale, hardly used, 10 incline settings, several programmed walking programs, cushioned track, must sell, \$195. For more information call 356-4511.

For Sale: Samsung stainless steel and black slide-in stove; four burners (two-dual) with one center warming center, three years old, \$800 firm. For more information call (719) 290-5440.



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- Increased appetite
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- Heavy or labored breathing
- Stupor or unconsciousness



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Capt. Eydie Sakura
438th Air Expeditionary Wing

KABUL, Afghanistan — The U.S. Air Force delivered four A-29 Super Tucanos to the Afghan Air Force Jan. 15 at Hamid Karzai International Airport, Afghanistan.

Eight combat-ready attack pilots and a handful of maintainers graduated Dec. 17, 2015, and have returned to Afghanistan after a year of training with the 81st Fighter Squadron at Moody Air Force Base, Georgia. The pilots are the first of 30 who will be trained by the 81st FS in the next three years.



U.S. Air Force photo/Tech. Sgt. Nathan Lipscomb

An A-29 Super Tucano taxis across the airfield at Hamid Karzai International Airport, Afghanistan, Jan. 15, 2016. The aircraft will be added to the Afghan Air Force's inventory in the spring of 2016. The A-29 is a light air support aircraft capable of conducting close air support, aerial escort, armed overwatch and aerial interdiction.

escort, armed overwatch and aerial interdiction in the coming months.

Designed to operate in high temperatures and in extremely rugged terrain, the A-29 is highly maneuverable fourth-generation weapons system capable of delivering precision-guided munitions.

"It can fly at low speeds and low altitudes, is easy to fly, and provides exceptionally accurate weapons delivery," Craig said.

"It is currently in service with 10 different air forces around the world."

The A-29 program was designed to help Afghan pilots gain an advantage by providing close air support to friendly forces engaged in combat on the ground. Training pilots on the A-29 in the U.S. provides them an opportunity to learn how to employ this weapon system and defend Afghanistan from insurgents, he said.

DESERT STORM
(Continued from page 12)

foodstuffs, stocks, household goods and water supply."

The Strategic Airlift Command led refueling missions during Desert Shield/Desert Storm.

"Once the deployment order was given on Aug. 7, 1990, tankers played an integral role in getting forces and aircraft to the deployed theater of operations," retired Air Force Gen. Kenneth Keller, the former SAC director of operations, said during a 2009 AMC Tanker Living Legends Speaker Series.

Seven B-52Gs from Barksdale AFB, Louisiana, dropped the first bombs to initiate Operation Desert Storm Jan. 17, 1991. The bombers launched 35 conventional air launch cruise missiles, flew 14,000 miles for more than 35 hours without landing.

These were the first combat sorties launched for the liberation of Kuwait in support of Operation Desert Storm, and it marked the longest combat sortie flight totaling 14,000 miles in 35 hours and 24 minutes. This mission required multiple four inflight refuels outbound and four returning, according to the Air Force Global Strike Command.

"Without the phenomenal tanker support we had for the war, we could not have accomplished what we did," retired Lt. Gen. Patrick Caruana said in the Tanker Living Legends Speaker Series. Caruana was the U.S. Central Air Forces' air campaign planner and commander during Desert Shield/Desert Storm.

Tankers flew 4,967 sorties and off-loaded more than 28.2 million gallons of fuel to 14,588 receivers during the 132 days of Desert Shield buildup, according to the Air Force History Office document "Seventy-Five Years of Inflight Refueling." The 43 days of Desert Storm included 15,434 sorties and dispensed 110.2 million gallons of fuel to U.S. and allied aircraft.

"Desert Shield and Desert Storm demonstrated the U.S. Air Force's capability to respond to crisis and contingency situations in times of intense demand with limited resources," said Gen. Carlton D. Everhart II, the AMC commander. "Today, Headquarters AMC planners evaluate these operations to determine more efficient

methods of providing rapid global mobility and enhance AMC's agility."

Evolution of Air Mobility Command

Following Desert Storm, SAC and MAC merged to form Air Mobility Command. One constant through the years is the demand for rapid global mobility through aeromedical evacuation, airlift and aerial refueling. Today, AMC is meeting high demands with a smaller force and older fleet.

In the past 25 years, AMC retired the C-141B/C and the C-9A; made improvements to current airframes, C-5, KC-135 Stratotanker, C-130 and C-17 Globemaster III; and adopted a new airframe, the KC-46 Pegasus.

Mobility Airmen are off-loading more fuel now in support of the fight against the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant than what was offloaded when U.S. forces were on the ground in Iraq, operating with only 27 percent of the KC-135 fleet size originally assigned to AMC in 1992.

During 2010, at the height of Operation Enduring Freedom, Mobility Air Forces moved 856,208 short tons of cargo — the most in OEF history, compared to 543,548 short tons moved in the Gulf War. That same year, AMC had 429 aircraft assigned, less than half of the number of aircraft assigned at its inception in 1992.

"For the past 25 years since Desert Storm and Desert Shield, the (United States) has been in a state of continuous conflict," said Terry Johnson, the Air Mobility Command's air, space and information operations deputy director on Scott AFB, Illinois. "As we come out of Southwest Asia and shift from a constant state of continuous conflict, (Air Mobility Command's) focus needs to return to maintaining readiness especially after a period of fiscal austerity."

Today, there's one Mobility Air Forces departure every 2.8 minutes, every day, 365 days per year.

"The Air Force puts the 'rapid' in global mobility," Gen. Everhart said. "AMC is still required to support an increasingly demanding operations tempo while preserving the capability to surge if called upon. Without our total force and Civil Reserve Air Fleet partners, surge operations would be almost impossible."

TRICARE Pharmacy copays change Feb. 1

Maj. Carmella Essien
14th Medical Support Squadron
TOPA/RMO Flight Commander

Military pharmacies and TRICARE Pharmacy Home Delivery will remain the lowest cost pharmacy option for TRICARE beneficiaries when some TRICARE pharmacy copays change in 2016.

On Feb. 1, most copays for prescription drugs at Home Delivery and retail network pharmacies will increase slightly.

The 2016 National Defense Authorization Act requires TRICARE to change its prescription copays. All drugs at military pharmacies, and generic drugs through Home Delivery, are still available at no cost to beneficiaries.

Copays for brand name drugs through Home Delivery increase from \$16 to \$20, for up to a 90-day supply. At retail pharmacies, generic drug copays go from \$8 to \$10, and brand name drug copays go from \$20 to \$24, for up to a 30-day supply. Copays for non-formulary drugs and for drugs at non-net-

Point of Service	Generic Copays		Brand Name Copays		Non-Formulary Copays	
	2015	2016	2015	2016	2015	2016
Retail Network (30-day supply)	\$8 →	\$10	\$20 →	\$24	\$47 →	\$50
Home Delivery (90-day supply)	\$0 →	\$0	\$16 →	\$20	\$46 →	\$49
Military Pharmacy (90-day supply)	Still \$0 copay for all formulary drugs at MTF				Generally not available without medical necessity	

work pharmacies will also change.

Beneficiaries can save up to \$208 in 2016 for each brand name prescription drug they switch from retail pharmacy to Home Delivery. Home Delivery offers safe and convenient delivery of your prescription drugs right to your mailbox. To see the new TRICARE pharmacy copays, learn more about the TRICARE Pharmacy benefit, or move your prescription to Home Delivery, visit tricare.mil/pharmacy.

Base library relocated
to Education Center



U.S. Air Force photos/Senior Airman Kaleb Snay

The Base Library has relocated to the Education Center, building 916, rooms 3, 4 and 6. Hours of operation are Tuesday, Thursday and Friday 10:30 a.m. – 2:30 p.m. and Sundays 1 – 5 p.m. The library is offering Story Time every Friday at 10:30 a.m. for all ages. For more information, contact 434-2934.

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.

Three 14th OSS Airmen selected for OTS



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

Tech. Sgt. Joshua Clements, 14th Operations Support Squadron RAPCON Watch Supervisor, Staff Sgt. Andrew, 14th OSS Tower Watch Supervisor and Senior Airman Gust, 14th OSS RAPCON Controller, stand in the front of the RAPCON and Tower Jan. 15 at Columbus Air Force Base, Mississippi. These three Airmen were among those selected to attend Officer Training School and become Air Force officers. Clements will become an intelligence officer while Andrew and Gust were selected to fly Remotely Piloted Aircraft.

Top 3 hosts ‘Old School vs New School’ basketball



U.S. Air Force photos/Senior Airman Kaleb Snay

TOP: All 18 players from both teams stand together in front of the Team BLAZE sign Jan. 15 at Columbus Air Force Base, Mississippi. Team Old School were the blue jerseys, representing players over 30 years old, while Team New School represented players under 30 years old in the red jerseys.

RIGHT: Tech. Sgt. Fitzporter Kidd, Old School member number 13, goes for the basket during a “Old School vs New School” basketball game Jan. 15 at Columbus Air Force Base, Mississippi. The game was hosted by the Top 3 in observance of Martin Luther King Jr. Day.



AETC releases 2016 Strategic Plan

**Air Education and Training Command
Public Affairs**

JOINT BASE SAN ANTONIO-RANDOLPH, Texas — Air Education and Training Command officials released the command’s 2016 Strategic Plan today, designed to advance the First Command’s vision of “forging innovative Airmen to power the world’s greatest Air Force.”

“The 2016 Strategic Plan links all Airmen – military and civilian – to core AETC missions that directly impact Air Force operations worldwide,” said Lt. Gen. Darryl Roberson, AETC commander.

The plan aligns activities across the command, complements Headquarters Air Force imperatives, and focuses on mission success while supporting Airmen and their families. The plan highlights four strategic vectors: Motivational Mission Accomplishment, Know Our Airmen and Families, Innovation, and Leadership.

“Airpower starts here in the First Command,” said Roberson. “We are foundational to everything the U.S. Air Force does. This

plan clearly articulates how we can be successful today and agile enough to meet future challenges to keep America’s Air Force the strongest on the planet...and it all starts with our extraordinarily talented Airmen.”

Roberson stressed that the 2016 AETC Strategic Plan is designed to be practical and useful for all Airmen across the command.

“This plan is intentional – it intentionally aligns our mission to Air Force imperatives and it’s intentionally short. Our Airmen’s time is valuable and the guidance we give them must be clear, concise and usable,” he said.

“I encourage every AETC Airman – military and civilian – to take a few minutes and look through it. Our continued success depends on everybody’s involvement and commitment.”

The command will establish a framework for assessing its progress toward meeting the strategic goals. An annex with measureable objects will be released in the Spring of 2016.

To read the 2016 Strategic Plan online, go to http://www.aetc.af.mil/Portals/1/documents/2016%20AETC%20Strategic%20Plan_40MB.pdf.

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CLASSIFIED

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⇒ Cover or turn off classified monitors when visitors are announced

⇒ Position monitors to enhance security

⇒ Pull window shades and blinds to maximize security

Contact your Unit Security Manager for more information

FOR TRAINING PURPOSE ONLY

Prepping aircraft for paint jobs, in-depth inspections

Staff Sgt. Timothy Moore

86th Airlift Wing Public Affairs

RAMSTEIN AIR BASE, Germany — “Clean before applying paint” is a direction many people may disregard during a home improvement project, but it’s something that’s well-heeded by specialists of the 86th Maintenance Squadron.

Proper washing and painting can be crucial in maintaining the aircraft assigned to Ramstein Air Base.

“(It) is for corrosion prevention,” said Tech. Sgt. Andrew Kohn, a dock coordinator with the squadron’s isochronal (ISO) inspection section. “You want to get all the grime and grit that gathered while it’s out.

“We don’t always land on international runways,” Kohn added. “We land on dirt runways with rocks, so you’re going to get nicks and things wrong with your plane.”

For this reason, Kohn said they wash and paint aircraft in conjunction with the regularly scheduled ISO inspections.

An ISO inspection is a scheduled, extensive examination of an aircraft to maintain its functionality and perform preventive maintenance. The inspections can vary in time and complexity, with inspections categorized as either A, B, C-1 or C-2 checks.

“The C-2 check, which is the most in-depth, is what we’re coming up on right now,” Kohn said. “Anything and everything that you have on this aircraft is going to be touched by us.”

This C-2 check marks the end of a 14-aircraft ISO inspection period for Ramstein AB. After this C-2 inspection, the base will not be due for another one until 2020.

“For the 86th Airlift Wing, that means more reliability on the aircraft side,” Kohn said.

The inspections involve Airmen from multiple shops in the 86th MXS, but each aspect of the process holds value to the getting the aircraft back into operations.

“I had never heard about having to wash an aircraft, and then I got here (and) I was told I was going to wash,” said Airman 1st Class Ryan Kuiper, an 86th MXS aerospace maintenance apprentice. “It’s an experience I’ll never forget, that’s for sure.”

The Airmen have one day to get the entire aircraft washed. Kuiper said the wash day can be long and physically taxing.

“It’s cool to see the plane go from dirty to clean,” he said.

Though the painting is mostly touch-up



U.S. Air Force photo/Staff Sgt. Timothy Moore

Airmen with the 86th Maintenance Squadron wash a C-130J Super Hercules before a C-2 isochronal inspection Jan. 4, 2016, at Ramstein Air Base, Germany. This examination marks the 14th and final C-2 ISO inspection for the 86th Airlift Wing until 2020. C-2 ISO inspections last approximately two weeks.

spot painting, it is still an important method to prevent corrosion and extend the life of the aircraft.

Once the aircraft is washed and painted, it then officially goes into inspection, which is broken up into a “look” and a “fix” phase.

“They are very in-depth inspections,” Kuiper said. “The planes get taken apart and put back together.”

The ISO section typically looks for the items that would cause mission stoppage first, but they check everything from burned-out light bulbs to cracked airframes.

“You learn how things operate, what goes wrong more than others” Kuiper said. “During the inspection, you learn why things are more important than other things.”

Kuiper said the inspection is better than the wash because although they are still on a time crunch, they are allowed more than the one day that completing the wash requires.

Each C-2 inspection takes approximately two weeks to return the aircraft to operational status, but it all begins with a wash and paint job.



U.S. Air Force photo/Staff Sgt. Timothy Moore

Airmen with the 86th Maintenance Squadron wash a wing of a C-130J Super Hercules before a C-2 isochronal inspection Jan. 4, 2016, at Ramstein Air Base, Germany. The examination marks the 14th and final C-2 ISO inspection for the 86th Airlift Wing until 2020. A C-2 ISO inspection lasts approximately two weeks and is an extensive examination of an aircraft to maintain its functionality and perform preventive maintenance.

Operation Desert Storm: 25 years later, AMC doing more with less

Staff Sgt. Stephenie Wade

Air Mobility Command Public Affairs

SCOTT AIR FORCE BASE, Ill. — Iraqi forces attacked Kuwait Aug. 2, 1990, setting into motion a massive military response from a coalition of nations to protect Saudi Arabia from invasion with Operation Desert Shield. After Iraqi leader Saddam Hussein refused to withdraw from Kuwait, Desert Shield gave way to Operation Desert Storm Jan. 17, 1991, and soon concluded with a ceasefire at the end of February.

Twenty-five years later, Mobility Air Forces are continuing to fuel the fight and provide airlift with most of the same airframes the Air Force used during Desert Storm.

Jan. 17 marks the 25th anniversary of the total force performing the most rapid airlift movement in history. Nearly 472,800 people and approximately 465,000 tons of cargo were deployed to the Persian Gulf in eight months.

The buildup

Airlift and air refueling enabled the rapid arrival of the first U.S. forces in Desert Shield. Two F-15 Eagle squadrons from Langley Air Force Base, Virginia, arrived in Saudi Arabia on Aug. 7, 1990.

Military Airlift Command launched its first airlift mission that day as well, a C-141 mission from Charleston AFB, South Carolina, carrying airlift control elements.

Within the next 24 hours, ALCs were in place in Saudi Arabia to manage the airlift flow. The ALC personnel and cargo were carried on 37 C-141s, 10 C-5 Galaxies and 10 C-130 Hercules missions. U.S. Transportation Command completed the largest unit deployment ever via air with 412 strategic airlift aircraft. From Aug. 8-26, the Strategic Airlift Command airlifted the 82nd Airborne Division to Saudi Arabia while simultaneously moving the 101st Airborne Division from Aug. 17-25.

In a little more than two months, the XVIII Airborne Corps, consisting of an airborne division, an air-assault division, two heavy divisions, an armored cavalry regiment, and the requisite array of combat support and combat service support assets, deployed. The arriving inventory included more than 120,000 troops, 700 tanks, 1,400 armored fighting vehicles, and 600 artillery pieces.

Not long into the operation, a lack of spare parts impeded the buildup to Desert Storm. To help cope with priority deliveries, TRANSCOM established a special code 9AU and an airlift system to support. On Oct. 30, 1990, Mobility Air Forces began a special airlift operation called Desert Express to provide daily delivery of spare parts considered absolutely crucial to the war effort.

This was a new concept of airlift operations, which involved C-141 deliveries from Charleston AFB to Dhahran, Saudi Arabia. With a stop for refueling, the journey took about 17 hours one way, according to a document titled “So Many, So Much, So Far, So Fast: United States Transportation Command and Strategic Deployment for Operation Desert Shield/Desert Storm.”

On Dec. 23, the airlift sustainment backlog peaked 10,300 tons. On Feb. 13, USTRANSCOM began flying a second C-141 flight per day to tackle the backlog until it was discon-



U.S. Air Force graphic/Master Sgt. Franz Chenet

Timeline of Operations Desert Shield/Desert Storm key events.

tinued May 20, 1991. By the end of the war, Desert Express flew nearly 135 missions.

Operation Desert Storm

Directed by USTRANSCOM, the Military Airlift Command managed the Desert Shield/Desert Storm strategic airlift. MAC's active-duty force joined with MAC-gained aircraft and crews from the Air Force Reserve and Air National Guard to make up a total strategic airlift force.

The "surge" of total force and the first activation of the Civilian Reserve Airlift Fleet was essential to the Desert Shield/Desert Storm success. There were 12,894 strategic airlift missions during both operations.

Commercial airline augmentation was also crucial to the airlift effort. The Civil Reserve Air Fleet was activated for the first time during Desert Shield/Desert Storm and flew 3,309 missions.

Altogether, commercial aircraft delivered 321,005 passengers and 145,225 tons of cargo, including 64 percent of passenger movements, according to the USTRANSCOM historical document.

On the military airlift side, the C-130 supported intra-theater needs and is credited with 1,193 tactical airlift missions. More than 145 C-130 aircraft deployed in support of Desert Shield/Desert Storm. The C-130s flew 46,500 sorties and moved more than 209,000 people and 300,000 tons of supplies within the theater.

The C-141 was called the "workhorse" of Desert Shield/Desert Storm, according to the USTRANSCOM document. It flew 8,536 strategic airlift missions, followed by the C-5 with 3,770; the KC-10 with 379 and the C-9 with 209. The C-141 and C-5 accounted for 361,147 tons, or 66 percent of the cargo airlifted in support of the Gulf War.

Gen. Hansford T. Johnson, the MAC commander at the time, compared the first few weeks of deployment effort to airlifting a small city.

"We moved, in essence, a Midwestern town the size of Lafayette, Indiana, or Jefferson City, Missouri," Johnson was quoted as saying in the MAC history book. "In addition, we've also moved the equivalent of all their cars, trucks,

See DESERT STORM, Page 14

Responding to Military Children with Exceptional Needs™

Responding to Military Children with Exceptional Needs™ is a professional development institute designed to inform concerned adults about military-connected children with exceptional needs and the issues they may face as they transition from school to school.

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There is no cost to participants

Upon completion of the training (12 clock hours) participants may apply for continuing education credits for a fee of \$25.00. CE credit applications must be received within 12 months from the completion of the training.

For additional information visit: www.MilitaryChild.org/professionals/programs/continuing-education-graduate-credit



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Military Child Education Coalition

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The Military Child Education Coalition® solely exists to help the military and veteran-connected child thrive in the face of transition and separation.

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Buckle up! It's the law.



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.

BLAZE Hangar Tails: C-5 Super Galaxy

Mission

The C-5 Galaxy is one of the largest aircraft in the world and the largest airlifter in the Air Force inventory. The aircraft can carry a fully equipped combat-ready military unit to any point in the world on short notice and then provide the supplies required to help sustain the fighting force.

Features

The C-5 has a greater capacity than any other airlifter. It has the ability to carry 36 standard pallets and 81 troops simultaneously. The Galaxy is also capable of carrying any of the Army's air-transportable combat equipment, including such bulky items as the 74-ton mobile scissors bridge. It can also carry outsize and oversize cargo over intercontinental ranges and can take off or land in relatively short distances. Ground crews are able to load and off-load the C-5 simultaneously at the front and rear cargo openings, reducing cargo transfer times. Other features of the C-5 are:

- Able to operate on runways 6,000 feet long (1,829 meters)
- Five sets of landing gear totaling 28 wheels to distribute weight
- Nose and aft doors that open the full width and height of the cargo compartment to permit faster and easier loading
- A "kneeling" landing gear system that permits lowering the parked aircraft to facilitate drive-

on/drive-off vehicle loading and adjusts the cargo floor to standard truck-bed height

- Full-width drive-on ramps at each end for loading double rows of vehicles
- A maintenance diagnostics system that records and analyzes data from more than 800 (C-5A) and 7000 (C-5M) test points, reducing maintenance/repair time.

The C-5 has the distinctive high T-tail, 25-degree wing sweep, and four turbofan engines mounted on pylons beneath the wings.

The C-5 has 12 internal wing tanks with a total capacity of 51,150 gallons (194,370 liters) of fuel — enough to fill 6 1/2 regular-size railroad tank cars. A full fuel load weighs 332,500 pounds (150,820 kilograms). A C-5 with a cargo load of 270,000 pounds (122,472 kilograms) can fly 2,150 nautical miles, offload, and fly to a second base 500 nautical miles away from the original destination — all without aerial refueling. With aerial refueling, the aircraft's range is limited only by crew endurance.

Background

Lockheed-Georgia Co. delivered the first operational Galaxy to the 437th Airlift Wing, Charleston Air Force Base, now known as Joint Base Charleston, South Carolina, in June 1970. C-5s are operated by active-duty, Reserve, and Air National Guard crews. They are



U.S. Air Force photo/Greg L. Davis

A C-5M Super Galaxy taxis past other C-5Ms at Dover Air Force Base, Delaware. The aircraft can carry a fully equipped combat-ready military unit to any point in the world on short notice and then provide the supplies required to help sustain the fighting force.

currently stationed at Dover AFB, Delaware; Travis AFB, California; Lackland AFB, Texas; Martinsburg ANGB, West Virginia and Westover ARB, Massachusetts

In March 1989, the last of 50 C-5Bs was added to the 76 C-5As in the Air Force's airlift force structure. The C-5B includes all C-5A improvements as well as more than 100 additional system modifications to improve reliability and maintainability.

Based on a study showing 80 percent of the C-5 airframe service life remaining, AMC began an aggressive program to modernize the C-5 in 1998. The C-5 Avionics Modernization Program included upgrading the avionics to improve communications, navigation and surveillance/air traffic management compliance. The upgrade also added new safety equipment and installed a new autopilot system.

Another part of the C-5 modernization plan is a comprehensive Reliability Enhancement and Re-engining Program (RERP). Fifty-two C-5s (1A, 2C's, and 49B's) are scheduled to receive the RERP modification by fiscal 2017. The centerpiece of this program is the General Electric CF6-80C2 (F-138) commercial engine. This engine delivers a 22 percent increase in thrust, a 30 percent shorter take-off roll, has a 58 percent faster climb rate and will allow significantly more cargo to be carried over longer distances. With its new

engine and other system upgrades, the RERP modified C-5A/B/Cs become C-5Ms, Super Galaxy. This modernization program will make the C-5 much quieter (FAA Stage 4 Compliant) and enhance aircraft reliability and maintainability, maintain structural and system integrity, reduce cost of ownership and increase operational capability well into the 21st century.

In fiscal 2004 and fiscal 2011, Congress authorized the retirement of 46 C-5As. In fiscal 2013 Congress authorized an additional 27 C-5A retirements, one of which has retired. The remaining 26 aircraft will retire between fiscal 2014 and fiscal 2015. The current resulting fleet size from these events is 78, 26 C-5As and 52 C5B/C/M.

General Characteristics

Primary Function: Outsize cargo transport

Prime Contractor: Lockheed-Georgia Co.

Power Plant: Four General Electric TF-39 engines (C-5A,B,C)/ Four F-138 General Electric engines (C-5M)

Thrust: 43,000 pounds, each engine (C-5A,B,C)/ 51,250 pounds, each engine (C-5M)

Wingspan: 222 feet 9 inches (67.89 meters)

Length: 247 feet 1 inch (75.3 meters)

Height: 65 feet 1 inch (19.84 meters)

Cargo Compartment:

- Height, 13 feet 6 inches (4.11 meters)
- Width, 19 feet (5.79 meters)
- Length, 143 feet, 9 inches (43.8 meters)

Pallet Positions: 36

Maximum Cargo: 270,000 pounds (122,472 kilograms)

Maximum Takeoff Weight: 840,000 pounds (381,024 kilograms)

Speed: 518 mph

Unrefueled Range of C-5M:

About 4,800 nautical miles, e.g., Dover AFB, Delaware, to Incirlik AB, Turkey, with 120,000 lbs (war-time planned load) of cargo. About 7,000 nautical miles with no cargo on board.

Crew: Seven (pilot, co-pilot, two flight engineers and three loadmasters)

Fly Away Unit Cost: C-5A--\$152.8 million (fiscal 1998 constant dollars); C-5B--\$179 million (fiscal 1998 constant dollars); C-5C (Space Cargo Modification)--\$88 million (fiscal 1998 constant dollars); C-5M (RERP Modification)--\$90 million (fiscal 2009 constant dollars)

Deployed: C-5A in 1970; C-5B in 1986; C-5C in 1988; C-5M in 2009

Inventory: Total C-5 fleet changes monthly based on congressional approval of C-5A retirements; 52 C-5Ms are scheduled to be in the inventory by fiscal 2017; 16 C-5Ms have been delivered through December 2013.

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.)

Marketing Yourself for a Second Career

The workshop, 8 - 10:30 a.m. Jan 22, prepares you to Market Yourself. Workshop includes resume information, interviewing preparation, networking tips and negotiation strategies. To register and more information please call 434-2790.

Hearts Apart

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

Resume and Cover Letter

This workshop 9 - 10:30 a.m. Feb. 3, gives you preparation for writing effective civilian resumes and Cover Letters. For more information, call 434-2790.

Wing Newcomers Orientation

This brief is 8 a.m. - 12:15 p.m. Feb. 9. It is mandatory for newly arrived active-duty and civilian personnel. Spouses are encouraged to attend. The orientation is held at the Kaye Auditorium, or Columbus Club, for more information call 434-2839.

First Term Officer's PFR

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

Military Life Cycle

The Military Life Cycle workshop, 1 - 2 p.m. Feb. 9, 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.

Troops To Teachers

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

Smooth Move

This class, 10 - 11:30 a.m. Feb. 16, is a class providing 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.

Capstone

This class is scheduled for 8 a.m. - noon Feb. 18. The Capstone is required for all separating/retiring personnel and should occur no later than 90 days prior to anticipated separation/retirement; however, if a member has less than 90 days left in the military, the member should attend as soon as possible within their remaining period of service. It verifies if service members have/have not met their Career Readiness Standards/Individual Transition Plan Checklist, DD Form 2958. The checklist, in conjunction with the ITP, will be used by the A&FRC to verify status of CRS completion. Call 434-2790 for more information.

Columbus Airmen save lives with donations



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

Staff Sgt. Marcus Tello, 14th Operation Support Squadron Aircrew Flight Equipment, donates blood at a blood drive Jan. 15 in the Base Chapel Annex on Columbus Air Force Base, Mississippi. The United Way collects 15.7 million blood donations over the course of a year.

Pre-separation Counseling

This counseling is a mandatory briefing for personnel separating or retiring, to be completed at least 90 days prior to separation. It may be completed up to 12 months prior to separation or retirement. The counseling is held daily at 8:30 a.m. It takes approximately 60 minutes. Please contact A&FRC, 434-2839/434-2790 for more information.

Pre, Post Deployment Tour Brief

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

Survivor-Benefit Plan

Are you nearing military retirement? The one decision you will need to make before you retire involves participation in the Survivor Benefit Plan. As with all good decision-making, you need to

know the facts before you can make a sound decision, and be wary of anyone telling you they can offer you a better deal. Always get the true facts about the SBP before making up your mind. Additional details are available by calling (662) 434-2720.

Military and Family Life Consultant Program

The MFLC counselors provide non-medical counseling to help Airmen (both single and married), their spouses and other family members to cope with stressful situations created by deployment, 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.

Air Force Recovery Coordination Program

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

Chapel Schedule

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

The Chapel offers the following weekly programs:

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

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

Wednesday:

11:30-12:30 p.m. - Holy Hour

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



U.S. Air Force photo/Tech. Sgt. Justin D. Pyle

A C-5 Galaxy with the 301st Airlift Squadron departs Sierra Leone for Naval Air Station Keflavik, Iceland. The C-5 Galaxy is one of the largest aircraft in the world and the largest airlifter in the Air Force inventory.

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

Youth Sports Registration
The Youth Center is offering registration until Feb. 12 for the following sports: youth spring soccer, baseball, T-ball and girls softball. Save \$5 per player if registered by Jan. 22. The cost is only \$35 for ages 3 – 4; \$40 ages 5 – 18. Volunteer coaches needed. For more information, contact 434-2504.

Iceberg Golf Challenge
Whispering Pines Golf Course is offering a three-person 18-hole golf scramble at 9:30 a.m. Jan. 23. The cost is only \$10 plus green fees and cart. Entry fee includes hot dog, chips, and a drink. Must register and pay by Noon, Jan. 22. For more information, contact 434-7932.

Blazin' Trails Group Run/Walk
The Blazin' Trails Running Club is offering a five mile group run/walk at 7 a.m. Jan. 24. Meet up location is the Fitness Center. For more information, contact SSgt. Vincent at 434-2435.

Bar Benders Challenge
The Fitness Center is offering a Bar Benders Challenge at 6 p.m. Jan. 25. The challenge includes 300 Club 1 Rep Max and Max Reps at 185 pounds. Each participant who successfully bench presses 300 will receive a free shirt. For more information or to sign up, contact 434-2772.

Matt the Knife Magic Show
Free Admission. Join the Force Support Squadron for a night of magic at 7 p.m. Jan. 29 in Kaye Auditorium. For ages 18 and older due to adult situational material. For more information, contact Tech. Sgt. Victoria Thornton at 434-2611.

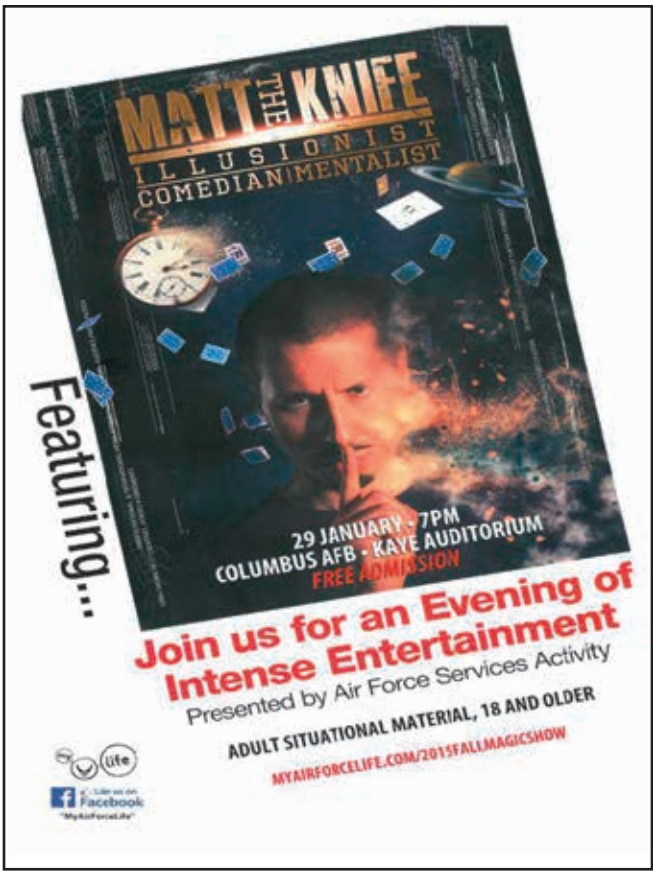
Family 3-Point Shoot Out
The Youth Center is offering a Family 3 Point Shoot Out and Hotspot Competition at 9 a.m. Jan. 30 for ages 6 – 18. Each child must compete with an adult. Register no later than Jan. 28. For more information, contact 434-2504.

Super Bowl Party
The Columbus Club inside the Event Center is offering a Super Bowl Party Feb. 7; doors open 4:30 p.m.; game starts 5:30 p.m. Win great prizes! For more information, contact 434-1583.

Glo ball Tournament
The Golf Course is offering a glo ball tournament at 6 p.m. Feb. 12. The cost is only \$35 plus cart per member; \$45 plus cart per non-member and includes 18 holes of glo ball golf and chili dinner prior to play. Must have 24 participants paid by noon, Feb. 5, to offer. For more information, contact 434-7932.

Youth Pre-Valentine Day Dance
The Youth Center is offering a youth Pre-Valentine Day dance from 6 – 10 p.m. Feb. 13 for ages 9 – 18. Enjoy music, refreshments, and lots of fun. The cost is only \$5 per person. Must have 15 registered by Feb. 8 to offer. For more information, contact 434-2504.

Story Time at the Library
The Base Library is offering Story Time every Friday at 10:30 a.m. for all ages. For more information, contact 434-2934.



Wee Babies
The Base Library is offering Wee Babies at 11 a.m. Feb. 16. This program is for 0 – 4 year olds and promotes rhythm, kinesthetic and body awareness using song, dance and activities. For more information, contact 434-2936.

Monster Jam Tickets
Information, Ticket and Tours is offering Monster Jam tickets for purchase. This event will be held at the Bancorp South Arena in Tupelo, Mississippi, at 7:30 p.m. Feb. 19 or at 2 or 7:30 p.m. Feb. 20. The cost is only \$19 per adult ticket; kids 2 – 12 years, \$13. Tickets must be paid for in advance no later than 4 p.m. Feb. 5. For more information, contact 434-2505.

Base Library Relocation
The Base Library has relocated to the Education Center, building 916. Hours of operation are as follows: Tuesday, Thursday and Friday 10:30 a.m. – 2:30 p.m. and Sundays 1 – 5 p.m. For more information, contact 434-2934.

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

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

Gymnastics Instructor Needed
Gymnastics Instructors needed at the Youth Center. For more information, contact Kayline Hamilton at 434-2503.

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

Volleyball Open Play
The Fitness Center offers volleyball open play every Sunday 1 – 3 p.m. For more information, contact 434-2772.

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

GoPro Rental
Capture the moment by renting a GoPro Hero 3 from Outdoor Recreation. Cost is only \$10 for a two-day rental. Single Airmen may receive a 2-day rental at no charge during Single Airman programming events. For more information, contact 434-2505.

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

Story Time
The Base Library is offering Story Time each Friday at 10:30 a.m. for all ages. For more information, contact 434-2934.

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

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

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!

Changing Air Force culture

1st Lt. Jennifer Kagarise
48th Flying Training Squadron Instructor Pilot

Imagine a brand new airman 1st class, straight from training, shows up to his first assignment filled with an excitement most of us have felt.

He has his uniform on, freshly pressed and ready to make a good impression. In-processing checklist in hand, he marches into the squadron with his head held high.

He spots a technical sergeant and a first lieutenant talking in the corner, not noticing him. Cautiously, he walks over to ask where he is supposed to go for the first stop on his checklist. The sergeant snaps at him and says, “You’re interrupting. Your uniform has a cable. And you aren’t even in the right squadron. Plus, that checklist is pointless. It’s basically impossible to get done.” Discouraged, the Airman walks out to try and find the right place.

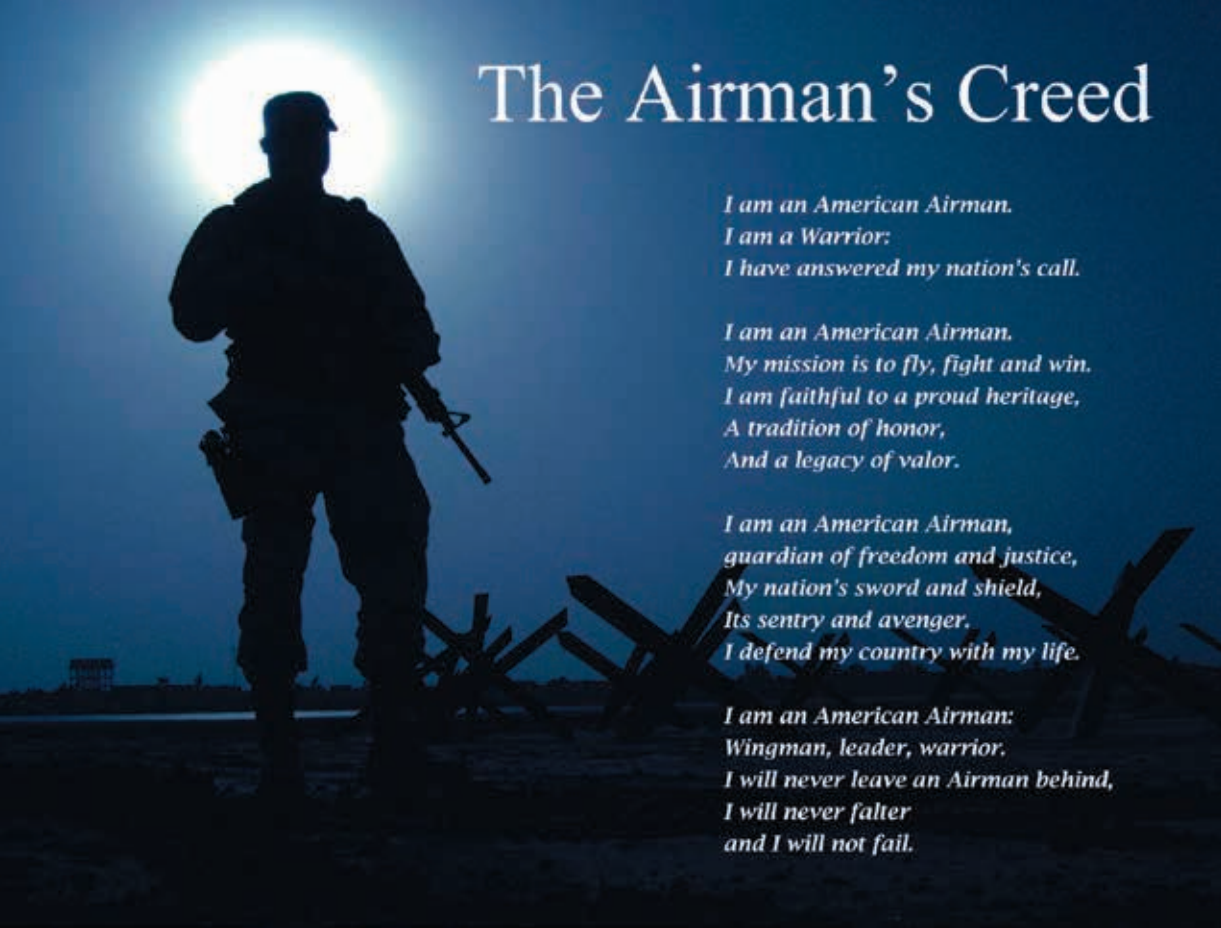
A few months later, that same Airman, now with the maintenance squadron, makes a major mistake on the hydraulic line. His supervisor yells at him for lack of attention to detail. He lays out all the problems the mistake could cause, telling him if he makes another mistake like that, he will be taken off the flightline.

Both examples provide a clear understanding of what needs to be done within the Air Force to help further develop the minds of young Airmen.

This once proud and excited Airman is now more discouraged than ever and his attitude reflects those around him. Over time, this sort of situation could cause a shift in the culture of the Air Force. Let’s take a look at how this should have played out.

The same Airman with the freshly pressed uniform walks into the squadron, head held high. He sees the sergeant and lieutenant talking in the corner. They spot a new face and quickly stop the conversation and approach the young man.

“Hey, are you new here? Can we help you with anything?” they ask.



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T-1A Jayhawk

SUPT Class 16-04 earns silver wings



T-38C Talon



Capt. Daniel Gill
Melbourne, Fla.
E-3, Tinker AFB, Okla.



Capt. Brian Hall
San Mateo, Calif.
KC-135, MacDill AFB, Fla.



2nd Lt. Brian Davis
Murrells Inlet, S.C.
F-16, Luke AFB, Ariz.



2nd Lt. James Ethridge
Beverly Hills, Mich.
MC-130J, Cannon AFB, N.M.



2nd Lt. Kimberly Michelle Jackson
Las Vegas, Nev.
T-1, Columbus AFB, Miss.



2nd Lt. Matthew James
Livonia, Mich.
F-16, Luke AFB, Ariz.



2nd Lt. Malcolm Lowe
Brandon, Miss.
C-17, Jackson ANG, Miss.



2nd Lt. Christopher Machen
Mobile, Ala.
T-38, Columbus AFB, Miss.



2nd Lt. Michael William Maready
Atlanta, Ga.
C-17, Jackson ANG, Miss.



2nd Lt. James Reeder
St. Thomas, Pa.
C-17, McChord AFB, Wash.



2nd Lt. Kyle
MQ-9, Cannon AFB, N.M.



2nd Lt. Steven Tatum
Columbia, Miss.
C-17, Jackson ANG, Miss.

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

Specialized Undergraduate Pilot Training Class 16-04 graduates at 10 a.m. today during a ceremony at the Kaye Auditorium. Retired Lt. Gen. Douglas Owens, former Air Education and Training Command Vice Commander, 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.

2nd Lt. Matthew James, T-38, and 2nd Lt. Michael Maready, 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 2nd Lt. Matthew James, T-38, and Capt. Brian Hall, 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.

2nd Lt. Matthew James, T-38, and 2nd Lt. Michael Maready, T-1, were named the distinguished graduates of SUPT Class 16-04.

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, take-off 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 16-04 pilot partners are Air Control Engineering, Inc., and Liberty Heart Center.

