

Weather

Friday  Sunny High 68°F Low 40°F	Saturday  Sunny High 67°F Low 45°F
Sunday  Sunny High 71°F Low 51°F	Monday  Thunderstorms High 72°F Low 54°F

Forecast provided by the 14th OSS Weather Flight

News Briefs

Autocross

An Autocross event is scheduled for 9 a.m. April 16-17 at the SAC ramp. All personnel are welcome to participate in the vehicle course.

Wing Newcomers Orientation

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

48th FTS Change of Command

The 48th Flying Training Squadron is hosting a Change of Command ceremony at 8:48 a.m. April 21 at the Columbus Club.

43rd FTS Change of Command

The 43rd Flying Training Squadron is hosting a Change of Command ceremony at 10:43 a.m. April 22 at the Columbus Club.

Inside



Feature 8

SUPT Class 16-07 graduates today at 10 a.m. at the Kaye Auditorium.



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

Chief Master Sgt. Rita Felton, 14th Flying Training Wing Command Chief, speaks with retired chief master sergeants from the local area during the Chiefs' Luncheon April 5 at Columbus Air Force Base, Mississippi. This monthly interaction allows for engaging stories, news and life lessons with the active duty chiefs.

Chief shares pastimes and future events with retirees over lunch

Senior Airman Kaleb Snay

14th Flying Training Wing Public Affairs

Several local retirees came to the Columbus Club for the annual Retired Chief's Luncheon April 5 at Columbus Air Force Base.

"The purpose of the event is to have a relationship between

our active duty chiefs and our retirees," said Chief Master Sgt. Rita Felton, 14th Flying Training Wing Command Chief. "This is a great community effort that I have enjoyed since arriving here and I feel it helps bridge the gap between where we are in today's Air Force and where it was then."

See RETIREES, Page 2

COLUMBUS AFB TRAINING TIMELINE

PHASE II				PHASE III				IFF				WING SORTIE BOARD			
Squadron	Senior Class	Squadron Overall	Track Select	Squadron	Senior Class	Squadron Overall	Graduation	Squadron	Senior Class	Squadron Overall	Graduation	Aircraft	Required	Flown	Annual
37th (17-02)	2.71 days	2.20 days	May 17	48th (16-08)	-2.19 days	2.34 days	Apr. 15	49th (16-GBC)	2.25 days	-0.37 days	May 2	T-6	459	616	15,246
41st (17-01)	3.31 days	3.18 days	Apr. 25	50th (16-08)	-1.48 days	0.60 days	Apr. 15					T-1	164	143	5,057
												T-38	164	168	5,034
												IFF	78	81	2,088

The Specialized Undergraduate Pilot Training Class 16-07 guest speaker is Col. Murry Mitten, U.S. Air Force retired.



14TH FLYING TRAINING WING DEPLOYED

As of press time, 48 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.

RETIREEES

(Continued from page 1)

Strengthening relations with retirees brings many unique opportunities to Team BLAZE Airmen that Felton can't help but acknowledge.

"My favorite part is still hearing the stories," Felton said. "It's always something new and more exciting than the last. Just to see the look in their eyes as the express their history is exciting. It's a joy to know we are part of such a great enterprise."

The event brought in more than 10 local

retirees from the Columbus community.

"Unfortunately as members get older some are unable to come or maybe unaware but with our retiree office recently stood up we are able to get more participants," Felton said.

After a meal, some stories and news about future events, the event concluded.

"I just think these type of opportunities where we get to mesh with our retiree population means a lot to them," Felton said. "When you get an opportunity to see them, take a moment to just talk to them and hear their stories because they will never forget and neither will we."

2016 Tax Center remains open until April 15

The Columbus AFB Tax Center will remain open through April 15. Trained volunteers will prepare your tax returns for free. The Tax Center is located on the first floor of the Personnel Center, building 926, room 105.

If you are an active duty member, retiree, or dependent, then you may qualify for this free tax preparation service.

The hours of operation are:

8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Wednesday and Friday by Appointment only

Walk-in hours are from 8 a.m. to noon Mondays for simple 1040 returns.

The scope of our tax preparation is limited. For more information or to schedule an appointment, please call the Tax Center at 434-7030.

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat/Sun	Long Range Events
11 Night Flying Week	12 MSU Aerospace Engineering Tour	13	14	15	16/17 → 16th - Boy Scout Camporee @ SAC Lake 16th & 17th - SCCA Autocross @ SAC Ramp	Apr. 29: First Quarterly Awards Ceremony Apr. 29: Enlisted Promotions Ceremony Apr. 29: SUPT Class 16-08 graduation May 4-5: Holocaust remembrance May 6: 16-09 Assignment Night May 10: Wing Newcomers Orientation May 13: CCAF Graduation May 14: BLAZE-fest May 20: SUPT Class 16-09 graduation May 21: Dodgeball Tournament May 27: Independence Pool Opens May 31: Wing Newcomers Orientation June 9: 41st FTS Change of Command June 10: SUPT Class 16-10 graduation June 16: 14th MSG Change of Command
18	19 Wing Newcomers Orientation, 8 a.m. @ Club Honorary Commander Reception, 5:30 p.m. @ Club	20 Leadership Lowndes County tour	21 48th FTS Change of Command, 8:48 a.m. @ Fire Station	22 43rd FTS Change of Command, 10:43 a.m. @ Fire Station	23/24 23rd - International Student Social	

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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Editorial content is edited, prepared and provided by the 14th Flying Training Wing Public Affairs Office of Columbus AFB, Miss.

The SILVER WINGS staff reserves the right to edit or rewrite all copy submitted when necessary. All photos are U.S. Air Force photos unless otherwise stated.

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.

Track Select



2nd Lt. Justin Agud	T-1
2nd Lt. Masaaki Amagase	T-38
2nd Lt. Jordan Baab	T-1
2nd Lt. Collin Burchfield	T-1
2nd Lt. Phillip Butler	T-38
2nd Lt. James Chambers	T-1
2nd Lt. Jacob Del Ponte	T-38
2nd Lt. Austin Gillespie	T-1
2nd Lt. Kevin Hart	T-1
2nd Lt. Jeffrey Hoernemann	T-1
2nd Lt. Harrison Jerrolds	T-38
2nd Lt. Joji Ishiwatari	T-38
2nd Lt. Benjamin Leiter	T-1
2nd Lt. Jonathan Leslie	T-1
2nd Lt. Tyler Patrick	T-1
2nd Lt. Kyle Randall	T-38
2nd Lt. Nicholas Roegner	T-1
2nd Lt. Stephen Sells	T-1
2nd Lt. Gavin Warmbold	T-1

Leverette Award

2nd Lt. Phillip Butler

Top Guns

Contact: 2nd Lt. Tyler Patrick

Instrument: 2nd Lt. Phillip Butler

Formation: 2nd Lt. Phillip Butler

16-15

14th FSS receives AETC Program of the year award



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

Congratulations to Becky Smith, 2nd Lt. Emily Bucher, Maj. Jennifer Fillmore, Staff Sgt. Victoria Hull and 2nd Lt. Brooke McCroskey of the 14th Force Support Squadron for achieving the Air Education and Training Command Operations Program of the Year. The Operations team consist of five military and civilian personnel responsible for Installation Personnel Readiness, unit plans and readiness, unit training, unit compliance, installation honor guard, mortuary affairs and more from the 14th FSS. Not available for photo are Tech. Sgt. Charleston Calhoun, Tech. Sgt. Arnette Snow, and Staff Sgt. Joshua Chambers.



U.S. Air Force photo/Melissa Doublin

Four of Team BLAZE's enlisted Airmen were promoted during the enlisted promotions ceremony March 31 at the Columbus Club.

Four enlisted Airmen promoted at ceremony

14th Flying Training Wing
Public Affairs

were:

Senior Airman Kendall Payne, 14th Operations Support Squadron

Senior Airman Kaleb Grant, 14th Force Support Squadron

Senior Airman Bradley Litke, 14th FSS

Senior Airman Chelsee Vergne, 48th

Four of Team BLAZE's enlisted Airmen were promoted during the enlisted promotion ceremony March 31 at the Columbus Club.

Promoted during the month of March

Flying Training Squadron

Senior Master Sgt. Arce receives AETC Senior NCO of the Year award

Congratulations to Senior Master Sgt. Joseph Arce, 14th Operations Support Squadron, for achieving the Air Education and Training Command Senior NCO of the Year award. The AETC awards recognize the important contributions, significant accomplishments and the highest qualities of leadership exhibited by enlisted members representing a cross section of career fields.



49th FTS Graduates IFF Class 16-FBC

Six members from class 16-FBC graduated Introduction to Fighter Fundamentals April 1. This phase of their training sets them on their way to becoming fighter pilots and Weapon Systems Officers in the Combat Air Forces of the United States Air Force.

The 49th FTS is responsible for active duty, guard, reserve, and international flying training in the T-38C IFF aircraft. The 49th FTS provides training to fighter pilots and Weapon Systems Officers entering Air Force major fighter weapons systems, which include the A-10C, F-15C, F-15E, F-15S, F-16 and F-22.

The nine-week course begins with tac-

tical formation flights and then introduces pilots and Weapon Systems Officers to basic fighter maneuvers and air-to-air employment in offensive, defensive, and high aspect fight scenarios. Wingmen bound for aircraft with an air-to-ground attack capability then move on to basic surface attack and surface attack tactics phases learning to employ ordnance against ground targets. The skills learned during IFF directly translate to the fighters these wingmen will fly in their follow-on training and employ in combat.

Congratulations to the following fighter wingmen.



Capt. Brendan Lanphear
A-10



2nd Lt. Ragus, Cezary Jan
F-16



2nd Lt. Hansen, Aaron
F-15E

Deshaies takes charge of 14th STUS



U.S. Air Force photo/Sharon Ybarra

Col. James Boster, 14th Operations Group Commander, passes the 14th Student Squadron guidon to Lt. Col. Marc Deshaies, the new 14th STUS Commander, at a change of command ceremony March 31 at Columbus Air Force Base, Mississippi. Deshaies was formerly the 14th Flying Training Wing Director of Staff.

Carter announces Operation Inherent Resolve Campaign Medal

Jim Garamone

DOD News, Defense Media Activity

WASHINGTON — Service members who serve or have served in Iraq or Syria as part of Operation Inherent Resolve will receive the Inherent Resolve Campaign Medal, Defense Secretary Ash Carter announced March 30 in Tampa, Florida.

Carter announced the new medal during the U.S. Central Command change of command ceremony. Army Gen. Lloyd J. Austin III transferred the command's flag to Army Gen. Joe Votel.

"It is fitting then, that as we mark the change of command between these two leaders, that we introduce the Inherent Resolve Campaign Medal," Carter said. "I am pleased to announce today, by the president's order and upon the chairman's and my recommendation, that our Sailors, Soldiers, Airmen and Marines serving in Iraq and Syria as part of Operation Inherent Resolve are now eligible for this medal and distinction."

Medal retroactive

The medal is retroactive to June 15, 2014, and is for ser-

vice members based in Iraq or Syria, those who flew missions over those countries, and those who served in contiguous waters for 30 consecutive days or 60 nonconsecutive days, officials said.

The medal distinctly recognizes service members battling terrorist groups in Iraq and Syria. Service members who were killed or were medically evacuated from those countries due to wounds or injuries immediately qualify for the medal, as do members who engaged in combat.

Previously, the Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal recognized service in Iraq and Syria, and service members in neighboring countries such as Turkey will continue to receive that medal.

The president establishes campaign medals for large-scale and long-duration combat actions or operations. Inherent Resolve meets the criteria, officials said. The entire operational area has been subject to lethal combat operations. U.S. forces are executing an extensive air campaign in the region. A U.S. division-plus force is providing command and control, intelligence and other advisory services.

The medal is separate from the Iraq Campaign Medal, earned for service during operations Iraqi Freedom and New Dawn, officials said.



Defense Department illustration

Defense Secretary Ash Carter announced the creation of the Inherent Resolve Campaign Medal March 30, 2016.

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.

Miscellaneous

For Sale: White Kenmore chest freezer with power light, sliding basket and in excellent condition; must sell, \$195. For more information call 356-4511.

For Sale: Olde Town 146 Saranac Green Canoe used only three times and stored indoors. High back seats with center seat storage, bought new for \$699, asking \$450 or best offer. For more information call Mike at 574-0369.

NEWS AROUND TOWN

April 9

Stroll through the Colonnade Garden Party from 3 – 6 p.m. at the Colonnade Garden 620 Second Street South. Admission is \$15. For more information visit online at visitcolumbusms.org.

April 12

The Mississippi University for Women Faculty Recital starts at 7:30 p.m., at the Poindexter Hall's Kossen Auditorium featuring Julia Mortyakova on piano. The event is free. For more information visit online at visitcolumbusms.org.

tion visit online at visitcolumbusms.org.

April 14

Noon Tunes featuring Bruce Johnson and Tyler Wheat are set to perform from 11:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. at the Trotter Convention Center Courtyard, downtown Columbus. It is free and open to the public. Lunch is available for purchase from Zachary's; drinks provided by Clark Beverages. For more information visit online at visitcolumbusms.org.

Columbus community runs in Spring Pilgrimage half marathon and 5k



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

Members of Team BLAZE and Columbus citizens pose for a photo at the 2016 Spring Pilgrimage Half Marathon and 5k April 2 near the Tennessee Williams Home.



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C-17 drag reduction testing aims at saving fuel

Kenji Thuloweit
412th Test Wing Public Affairs

EDWARDS AIR FORCE BASE, Calif. — From testing synthetic biofuels to “vortex surfing,” Edwards Air Force Base is on the forefront of finding new ways to cut fuel costs for the Air Force.

The latest venture is currently underway at the 418th Flight Test Squadron where a test team of Air Force and Boeing personnel recently completed the first phase of Air Force Research Laboratory’s C-17 Drag Reduction Program.

According to an AFRL study, the price the Air Force pays for jet fuel has quadrupled between 2004 and 2012. At the same time, the demand for personnel and equipment to be transported around the world has increased. Airlifters like the C-17 Globemaster III, C-130 Hercules and C-5 Galaxy use most of the Air Force’s fuel -- 70 percent in 2012. Of these cargo planes, the C-17 uses the most fuel.

The purpose of the C-17 Drag Reduction Program is to collect data on how airflow is affected with different modifications done to a C-17.

The modifications are scheduled for different phases using Vortex Control Technologies “Finlets” and Lockheed Martin microvanes and fairings. The ultimate goal is to see which, if any, modification reduces drag and thus fuel consumption.

“The C-17 in one of the highest consumers of jet fuel in the Air Force,” said Capt. Kevin Meyerhoff, a test pilot with the 418th Flight Test Squadron. “A reduction of just a few percent can result in significant cost savings.”

The first phase consisted of putting six VCT Finlets on the aft part of the fuselage. The test aircraft for the program is a C-17 on loan from Joint Base Lewis-McChord, Washington.

Test sorties for Finlets 1 configuration were completed in March to determine how the C-17 performed with the modification.

Although the goal is to reduce fuel consumption by increasing airflow efficiency and reduce drag, it has to be done without negatively effecting what the C-17 can do now.

“The cost savings these devices may offer are entirely dependent on the C-17 still being able to fulfill its mission in the Air Force,” Meyerhoff said. “Our testing focused not only on fuel performance, but also on any impacts that the devices may have on



U.S. Air Force photo/Kenji Thuloweit

The first phase of C-17 Globemaster III drag reduction testing consisted of putting six orange Finlets on the aft part of the fuselage. A C-17 on loan from Joint Base McChord-Lewis, Washington, is the test plane for the program. With three Finlets on each side, test sorties were conducted to see how the C-17 performed with the modification.

the flying qualities of the aircraft. This includes the C-17’s ability to perform critical air drop missions.”

The next phase of testing will add five more Finlets to each side of the C-17 for a total of 16 Finlets.

The strakes that come on production C-17s will be removed to make room for the additional Finlets.

In the third phase of testing, the Finlets will be removed and six microvanes will be placed on each side of the aft fuselage.

“The Finlets are similar to the strakes, only smaller and attached in greater numbers to the airplane. The microvanes are

even smaller, similar to small plastic blades,” said C-17 airdrop engineer Nhan Doan.

The fourth phase will see fairings attached to locations on the wings near the engines and winglets.

All these different structure modifications manipulate the airflow around the airplane. During computer simulations, spots on the C-17 were identified that showed where drag could be reduced.

The flight tests at Edwards AFB are the final stage of AFRL’s program following computer simulations and wind tunnel tests with a scale model. The data collected will be sent to AFRL at Wright-Patterson Air Force

Base, Ohio, to see if any of the modifications increase streamlining and reduce drag. After that, Air Force leaders will ultimately decide whether or not any of the modifications should be implemented throughout the C-17 fleet.

“Our end goal is to reduce fuel consumption while maintaining military utility,” said Steve Salas, a 418th FLTS project manager. “This program has the potential for significant savings in C-17 fuel costs, helping the Air Force stretch its budget even further, while maintaining force readiness.”

Testing is scheduled to be completed in October.

BLAZE Hangar Tails: C-12J Huron

Mission

The C-12J Huron is a twin turboprop aircraft used for cargo and passenger airlift. The aircraft is a military version of the Raytheon 1900C regional airliner. In addition to providing cargo and passenger airlift, the aircraft is capable of transporting two litter or ten ambulatory patients during aeromedical evacuations.

Features

The C-12J can carry 19 passengers or up to 3500 pounds of cargo. The fuel capacity of the C-12J is 675.2 gallons with refueling accomplished directly into each of its four fuel tanks through filler caps located on the top of each wing. The safety and operational capabilities of the C-12J are increased by the autopilot, color weather radar and tactical air navigation system, as well as high frequency, very high frequency and ultra high frequency radios.

The aircraft has a crew of two and may be flown from either cockpit seat. The C-12J fleet recently finished an extensive avionics upgrade and modernization program, which added three multi-function displays able to display all essential navigation information to the pilots. Additionally, three integrated Global Positioning Systems, two Flight Management Systems, a new autopilot, VHF/UHF communications radios and weather radar were installed.

Background

Delivery of the C-12J fleet began in July 1992. The U.S. Air Force currently operates four C-12J aircraft; three of these aircraft are operated by the 459th Airlift Squadron at Yokota Air Base, Japan, and one is operated by Air Force Material Command from Holloman Air Force Base, New Mexico.

General characteristics

- Primary Function:** Passenger and cargo airlift
- Prime Contractor:** Raytheon Aircraft Company (formerly the Beech Aircraft Corporation)
- Propulsion:** Two Pratt & Whitney PT6A-65B turbo-prop engines, each with a four-blade, full-feathering, reversible composite propeller, generating 1,173 shaft horsepower (3,400 ft-lb of torque) on each engine
- Length:** 57 feet, 10 inches
- Height:** 14 feet, 11 inches
- Wingspan:** 54 feet, 6 inches
- Maximum Takeoff Weight:** 16,710 pounds
- Maximum Speed:** 284 mph
- Ceiling:** 25,000 feet
- Fuel Capability:** 675.2 gallons; 1,035.2 gallons with ferry tanks
- Maximum Range:** 1,450 nautical miles, 1,669 statute miles
- Maximum Load:** 19 passengers or 3,500 pounds of cargo
- Crew:** Two (pilot and co-pilot)
- Date Deployed:** July 1992
- Inventory:** Active forces, 4; Air National Guard, 0; Air Force Reserve, 0



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



U.S. Air Force photo by Osakabe Yasuo/Released

TOP: A C-12F Huron assigned to the 517th Airlift Squadron waits for passengers to arrive before taking off at Tatalina Air Force Station near Mc-Grath, Alaska, Feb. 23, 2016. Tatalina is a long-range radar site and remains active as part of the Alaska North American Aerospace Defense Command Region.

LEFT: A C-12J Huron with the 459th Airlift Squadron parks at Yokota Air Base, Japan, Nov. 3, 2014. Members of the 459th AS participated in the annual Japan Air Self-Defense Force Iruma Air Show, Nov. 3, 2014.

Taking the Air Force Core Values to a Professional Level

Lt. Col. Austin Hood

14th Communications Squadron Commander

As the old saying goes, “Amateurs practice until they get it right; professionals practice until they can’t get it wrong.”

In his book, *The Power of Professionalism: The Seven Mind-Sets that Drive Performance and Build Trust*, Bill Wiersma proclaims professionals hold themselves to a higher standard. He also says professionalism is more about who you are and less about what kind of work you do.

Because Air Force core values are such a big part of who we are as Airmen, we owe it to ourselves to bring our understanding of these core values beyond an amateur’s perspective to a professional’s perspective. An amateur’s perspective peaks at being able to recite the three Air Force core values of Integrity First, Service before Self, and Excellence in all we do. While this works great as a quick reminder, it falls short of guiding us more precisely on how to act every day. A professional’s perspective involves an understanding of the Air Force core values with its defining virtues, and through decisions and actions, living them on and off duty.

In August 2015, the Air Force introduced its pamphlet, “America’s Air Force: A Profession of Arms,” (found at e-publishing.af.mil/shared/media/document/AFD-150826-047.pdf) as an evolution to the “little blue book,” which initially captured the Air Force core values. The pamphlet illustrates the Air Force core values with its defining virtues

in greater fidelity:

— **Integrity first:** doing the right thing, even when no one is watching.

• **Honesty:** requires us to evaluate our performance against standards, and to conscientiously and accurately report findings. The service member’s word must be unquestionable.

• **Courage:** not the absence of fear, but doing the right thing despite the fear.

• **Accountability:** individuals maintain transparency, seek honest and constructive feedback, and take ownership of the outcomes of their actions and decisions.

— **Service before self:** professional duties take precedence over personal desires.

• **Duty:** the obligation to perform what is required for the mission. Our sense of duty is a personal one and bound by the oath of service we took as individuals.

• **Loyalty:** an internal commitment to the success and preservation of something bigger than ourselves. Our loyalty is to the Nation first, the values and commitments of our Air Force second, and finally to the men and women with whom we serve.

• **Respect:** treating others with dignity and valuing them as individuals.

— **Excellence in all we do:** continuously advance our craft and increase our knowledge as Airmen (does not mean that we demand perfection in everything from everyone).

• **Mission:** mission focus encompasses operations, product and resources excellence. The complex undertaking of the Air Force mission requires us to harness the ingenuity, expertise, and elbow grease of all Airmen.

• **Discipline:** an individual commitment to uphold the highest of personal and professional standards. Airmen commit to a life of discipline and self-control. We demonstrate it in attitude, work ethic, and effort directed at continuous improvement, whether it be pursuing professional military education or nurturing ourselves physically, intellectually, emotionally, or spiritually.

• **Teamwork:** essential to triumph at every level. Airmen recognize the interdependency of every member’s contributions towards the mission and strive for organizational excellence. We not only give our personal best, but also challenge and motivate each other.

With this richer context of the Air Force core values, an Airman can take deliberate steps to practice a better application of the core values in their day-to-day actions. By accepting the challenge of living the Air Force core values on and off duty, Airmen develop professionally and contribute to a culture of trust where all Airmen can bring out their best. The Profession of Arms Center of Excellence website, airman.af.mil, contains a wide array of tools and knowledge for Airmen to professionalize their perspective on the Air Force core values and practice it until they can’t get it wrong.

The Airman’s Creed

I am an American Airman.
I am a Warrior.
I have answered my nation’s call.
I am an American Airman.
My mission is to fly, fight, and win.
I am faithful to a proud heritage.
A tradition of honor,
And a legacy of valor.

I am an American Airman.
Guardian of freedom and justice,
My nation’s sword and shield,
Its sentry and avenger.
I defend my country with my life.

I am an American Airman.
Wingman, leader, warrior.
I will never leave an Airman behind.
I will never falter,
And I will not fail.

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

Eielson selected to receive operational F-35A aircraft

Secretary of the Air Force
Public Affairs

WASHINGTON — Eielson Air Force Base, Alaska, was selected as the new home for the Air Force’s first operational overseas F-35A Lightning IIs.

Air Force officials chose Eielson AFB after a lengthy analysis of the location’s operational considerations, installation attributes, environmental factors and cost.

“Alaska combines a strategically important location with a world-class training environment. Basing the F-35s at Eielson AFB will allow the Air Force the capability of using the Joint Pacific Alaska Range Complex (JPARC) for large force exercises using a multitude of ranges and maneuver areas in Alaska,” said Secretary of the Air Force Deborah Lee James. “This, combined with the largest airspace in the Air Force, ensures realistic combat training for the (Defense Department).”

Proximity to the JPARC will enable the Air Force to take advantage of approximately 65,000 square miles of available airspace for realistic, world-class training in the Air Force’s most advanced fifth-generation fighter.

The decision culminates a



U.S. Air Force photo/Chad Bellay

Eielson Air Force Base, Alaska, was selected as the new home for the Air Force’s first operational overseas F-35A Lightning IIs. Air Force officials chose Eielson AFB after a lengthy analysis of the location’s operational considerations, installation attributes, environmental factors and cost.

three-year process that included an extensive environmental impact statement that examined impacts on such factors as air quality, noise, land use and socioeconomic.

“The decision to base two F-35 squadrons at Eielson AFB, Alaska, combined with the existing F-22 Raptors at Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson, will double our

fifth-generation fighter aircraft presence in the Pacific theater,” said Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. Mark A. Welsh III. “Integrating that fifth-generation force with Navy, Marine, and allied F-35 forces will provide joint and coalition warfighters unprecedented survivability, lethality and battlespace awareness in contested environments. It’s an

exciting time for Pacific airpower.”

The base is projected to receive two squadrons of F-35As, which will join the wing’s F-16 Fighting Falcon aggressor squadron currently assigned to Eielson AFB.

On-base construction to prepare for the aircraft is expected to start in fiscal year 2017 in order to be ready to accept the first F-35As, which are

currently scheduled to begin arriving in 2020.

Preliminary estimates had the new aircraft arriving a year earlier, but officials say the 2020 arrival will provide the Air Force more time and grow its active-duty maintenance force.

“The Air Force is facing a shortage of experienced, active-duty fighter aircraft maintainers as we transition from legacy aircraft to the F-35A,” said Lt. Gen. John B. Cooper, the deputy chief of staff the Air Force for logistics, installations and mission support. “Adjusting the initial plan and slightly accelerating F-35A arrivals at Burlington Air Guard Station, Burlington, Vermont, to fall 2019 will allow the service to stick to the overall F-35 rollout schedule, while capitalizing on the Air National Guard’s experienced fighter aircraft maintenance force as we put additional measures in place to increase the number of trained active-duty maintainers.”

The F-35A, manufactured by Lockheed Martin, is a fifth-generation fighter aircraft intended to be the Air Force’s premier strike aircraft through the first half of the 21st century. It is a multi-role fighter that is expected to eventually replace the service’s legacy air-ground fighter fleets.

April issue of Airman magazine now available

Airman Magazine Staff

FORT GEORGE G. MEADE, Md. — The April issue of Airman magazine is now available to download and is viewable through a Web browser.

Featured on our cover, “The perfect storm” gives a birds-eye view of the F-35 Lightning II as it goes through rigorous testing and evaluation in order to be declared initial operational capability within the projected deadline later this year.

Next, we follow a maintainer and his jet from the battlefield to the boneyard in “Struck by the Thunderbolt.”

In our final feature, the past mingles with the present during a heritage flight experience at Davis-Monthan Air Force Base, Arizona.

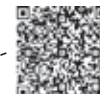
Airman magazine provides an interactive experience for tablet readers and a limited interactive

version is viewable in Web browser format.

You can download Airman magazine’s April issue for your tablet here:

Apple version:

<https://itunes.apple.com/us/app/airman-magazine/id566041850?mt=8>



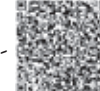
Android version:

<https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.airman.newairmanmagazine>



To read this issue on a PC/Mac:

<http://airman.dodlive.mil/airman-tablet-archive/>



For more stories, visit Airman Online, the website for the official magazine of the U.S. Air Force.



U.S. Air Force graphic/Christopher Desrocher

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

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.

Make the most of your money. Contact Ms. Delores Sherman, Personal Financial Counseling, for appointment, 426-2527, or 434-2790, ColumbusAFB-PFC@MFLC.Zeiders.com. She can help manage finances, resolve financial problems, and reach long-term goals such as getting an education, buying a home and planning for retirement.

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

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.

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

Tuesdays:
 11:30 a.m. – Daily Mass

Wednesdays:
 11:30-12:30 p.m. – Adoration

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

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

Wednesdays:
4 p.m. - Music Rehearsal

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



T-1A Jayhawk



T-38C Talon

SUPT Class 16-07 earns silver wings



Capt. Daniel J. Petrella
Chicago, Ill.
KC-135R, Scott AFB, Ill.



2nd Lt. Daniel Bailey
Cream Ridge, N.J.
T-1, Columbus AFB, Miss.



2nd Lt. Steven Bretscher
Indianapolis, Ind.
KC-135R, Grissom ARB, Ind.

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

Specialized Undergraduate Pilot Training Class 16-07 graduates at 10 a.m. today during a ceremony at the Kaye Auditorium. Col. Murry Mitten, U.S. Air Force retired, 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. Austin Hornsby, T-38, and 2nd Lt. Michael Thomas, 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 Croghan, T-38, and 2nd Lt. Dan Bailey, 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. Austin Hornsby, T-38, and 2nd Lt. Michael Thomas, T-1, were named the distinguished graduates of SUPT Class 16-07.

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, Mississippi. 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 16-07 pilot partners are Stark Aerospace and Columbus Main Street.



2nd Lt. Chad Douglass
Granbury, Texas
C-130H, Fort Worth, Texas



2nd Lt. Matthew Gabreski
Panama City, Fla.
C-12, Yokota AB, Japan



2nd Lt. Austin Hornsby
Murfreesboro, Tenn.
F-35, Luke AFB, Ariz.



2nd Lt. Zachary Mangers
Data Masked



2nd Lt. Nichole McCarthy
Hampton, Va.
KC-10, McGuire AFB, N.J.



2nd Lt. Dennis Parker
Annapolis, Md.
C-17, Charleston AFB, S.C.



2nd Lt. Ben Scott
Oneida, Ill.
T-6, Columbus AFB, Miss.



2nd Lt. Mark Skurdahl
Sherwood, Ore.
KC-135, Scott AFB, Ill.



2nd Lt. Kevin Tanous
Montgomery, Ala.
C-130J, Little Rock AFB, Ark.



2nd Lt. Michael Thomas
Naples, Fla.
C-130J, Ramstein AB, Germany



2nd Lt. Michael Craig
Orville, Ohio
F-16, Holloman AFB, N.M.



2nd Lt. Matthew Croghan
Woodbridge, Va.
F-16, Holloman AFB, N.M.



2nd Lt. Benjamin Dewar
Data Masked



2nd Lt. William Jones
Woodstock, Ga.
C-130H, Dobbins ARB, Ga.



2nd Lt. Connor King
Montgomery, Ala.
A-10, Davis-Monthan AFB, Ariz.



2nd Lt. Andrew Kmiec
East Troy, Wisc.
KC-135R, 128th ARW, Wisc.