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Weather

Friday

Mostly Cloudy

High 84°F Low 67°F

Saturday

Mostly Cloudy W/Chc
of Rain

High 84°F Low 69°F

Sunday

PM Thunderstorms

High 83°F Low 69°F

Monday

PM Thunderstorms

High 81°F Low 67°F

Forecast provided by the 14th OSS Weather Flight

News Briefs

Columbus Air Force Base Triathlon

The 14th Force Support Squadron is hosting a Spring Triathlon June 3. The first heat begins at 7 a.m. at Independence Pool.

14th Comptroller Squadron Change of Command

The 14th Comptroller Squadron is hosting a Change of Command ceremony at 2:14 p.m. June 8 at the Columbus Club.

SUPT Class 17-10 Graduation

Specialized Undergraduate Pilot Training Class 17-10 graduates at 10 a.m. June 9 at Kaye Auditorium.

Feature 8

The Memorial Day Ceremony is highlighted in this week's feature.

Columbus AFB Training Timeline															
Phase II				Phase III				IFF				Wing Sortie Board			
Squadron	Senior	Squadron		Squadron	Senior	Squadron		Squadron	Senior	Squadron		Aircraft	Required	Flown	Annual
	Class	Overall	Track Select		Class	Overall	Graduation		Class	Overall	Graduation				
37th (18-03)	1.51 days	1.02 days	June 7	48th (17-10)	-4.20 days	-0.22 days	June 9	49th (17-IBC)	-7.86 days	-3.05 days	June 22	T-6	2,929	2,799	21,105
41st (18-04)	2.71 days	1.61 days	June 29	50th (17-10)	2.23 days	-1.17 days	June 9	* Mission numbers provided by 14 FTW Wing Scheduling.				T-1	924	733	5,478
												T-38	1,041	963	7,271
The graduation speaker is Brig. Gen. Thomas Owens, Assistant Adjutant General - Air, New York National Guard, Latham, New York.												IFF	435	411	3,100

To advertise in Silver Wings, call 328-2424

Lieutenant colonel selects

The 14th Flying Training Wing congratulates its lieutenant colonel selects!

The selected lieutenant colonels are:

Neil Gregory, 37th Flying Training Squadron

Christopher Harris, 41st Flying Training Squadron

Nathan Preuss, 49th Flying Training Squadron

Shawn Redmond, 14th Security Forces Squadron

Jacob Stevens, 81st Fighter Squadron

Free takes over 50th FTS



Col. Stan Lawrie, 14th Operations Group Commander, hands the 37th Flying Training Squadron guidon to Lt. Col. William Free at the 37th Flying Training Squadron Change of Command ceremony May 25, 2017, on Columbus Air Force Base, Mississippi. The change of command signifies a formal transfer of authority and responsibility for a unit, ensures the unit is never without official leadership and signifies an allegiance of soldiers to their unit's commander.

U.S. Air Force photo by Sharon Ybarra

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Mon	Tue	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat/Sun	Long Range Events
5 VBS	6	7	8 14th CPTS Change of Command, 2:14 p.m. @ Club	9 SUPT Class 17-10 Graduation, 10 a.m. @ Kaye	10/11 10th & 11th: Autocross, @ SAC Ramp	June 20: Wing Newcomers Orientation June 22: Hearts Apart June 24: Columbus AFB Color Run June 29: 14th FSS CoC June 30: SUPT Class 17-11 Graduation June 30: Enlisted Promotions
12	13	14	15 Enlisted Dorm Dinner, 5 p.m. @ Montgomery Village	16 14th FTS CoC, 8:49 a.m. @ Fire Station Pilot for a Day Assignment Night, 5:30 p.m. @ Club	17/18 July 1: Fireworks on the Water July 3-4: AETC Family Day and holiday July 6: Col. Fisher Fini-flight July 7: Col. Fisher Retirement July 13: 14th SFS CoC July 14: 14th CONS CoC	

Silver Wings

How to reach us

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

Editorial Staff

Col. Douglas Gosney
14th Flying Training Wing
Commander

Mr. Sonic Johnson
Chief of Public Affairs
2nd Lt. Savannah Stephens
Master Sgt. Amanda Savannah
Quality Assurance

Senior Airman John Day
Editor

Airman 1st Class Beaux Hebert
Photo Journalist

Mrs. Tina Perry
Layout Designer

Submission Deadline

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

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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) 328-2424.

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CHICKEN OR SHRIMP PESTO PASTA \$22

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SAVE 15%
\$2.50 60-Lb. Concrete Mix
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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. Ad-

vertisements 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: Used Sears Kenmore full size gas-range for sale. It is almond in color, self-cleaning and in excellent condition. Asking price is \$125. Call 356-4511 for more information.

NEWS AROUND TOWN

June 12 - 17

Camp Rising Sun is a local YMCA summer camp for children with cancer. To apply, complete the application at http://camprisingsun-columbusms.org/crs/wp-content/uploads/2014/06/CRSday_20122.pdf.

June 24

2017 is the Bicentennial of Mississippi and this summer we will celebrate the 200th birthday in West Point with Bike-Centennial. Ride your bike, or walk, along a half-mile stretch of the Kitty Dill Walking Trail as you stop along the way, learning the history of Mississippi and West Point.

June 13 – July 28

Lion Hills Center and Golf Course will host Junior Golf Camps throughout the summer. Classes are June 13 - 16; June 20 - 23; June 27 - 30; July 11 - 14; July 18 - 21; July 25 - 28. Contact Lion Hills at 662-328-4837 for more information.

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OWENS

(Continued from page 1)

Nellis Air Force Base, Nevada

10. June 1997 - August 1999, Squadron Weapons Officer, Chief of Standards and Evaluation, 174th Fighter Wing, Syracuse, New York

11. August 1999 - May 2000, Operations Officer, 138th Fighter Squadron, Syracuse, New York

12. May 2000 - May 2001, Chief Weapons and Tactics, 174th Operations Support Squadron, Syracuse, New York, Fulltime MBA Student, Cornell University, Ithaca, New York

13. May 2001 - May 2003, Commander, 138th Fighter Squadron, Syracuse, New York

14. May 2003 - June 2005, Commander, 174th Operations Group, Syracuse, New York

15. June 2005 - June 2006, Air Force National Security Fellow, Harvard University, Boston, Massachusetts

16. June 2006 - September 2006, Assistant Vice Commander, 174th Fighter Wing, Syracuse, New York

17. September 2006 - January 2007, Deputy Operations Group Commander, 332nd Air Expeditionary Wing, Balad Air Base, Iraq

18. January 2007 - September 2009, Assistant Vice Commander, 174th Fighter Wing, Syracuse, New York

19. September 2009 - April 2016, Commander, 106th Rescue Wing, Westhampton Beach, New York

20. March 2016 - Present, Assistant Adjutant General, Latham, New York

FLIGHT INFORMATION

Rating: Command Pilot
Flight Hours: More than 3,900
Aircraft Flown: T-37, T-38, A-10, F-16A/B/C/D, MQ-1, HC-130, HH-60G
Pilot Wings: Reese Air Force Base, Texas

AWARDS AND DECORATIONS

Bronze Star Medal
Meritorious Service Medal with two Bronze Oak Leaf Clusters

Air Medal with Silver Oak Leaf Cluster and two Bronze Oak Leaf Clusters
Aerial Achievement Medal with Bronze Oak Leaf Cluster

Air Force Achievement Medal
Joint Meritorious Unit Award
Meritorious Unit Award with Bronze Oak Leaf Cluster

Air Force Outstanding Unit Award with V Device and Silver Oak Leaf Cluster
Combat Readiness Medal with two Silver Oak Leaf Clusters

National Defense Service Medal with Bronze Service Star

Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal
Southwest Asia Service Medal with Bronze Service Stars

Afghanistan Campaign Medal with Bronze Service Star

Iraq Campaign Medal with Bronze Service Star

Global War on Terrorism Service Medal
Humanitarian Service Medal
Air Force Overseas Ribbon Short

Air Force Expeditionary Service Ribbon (with Gold Border and Bronze Oak Leaf Cluster)

Air Force Longevity Service Award Ribbon with Silver Oak Leaf Cluster

Armed Forces Reserve Medal (with Silver Hourglass, M Device and Numeral 3)

Small Arms Expert Marksmanship Ribbon

Air Force Training Ribbon
Kuwait Liberation Medal Kingdom of Saudi Arabia

Kuwait Liberation Medal Government of Kuwait

EFFECTIVE DATES OF PROMOTION

Second Lieutenant Nov. 7, 1985
First Lieutenant Nov. 7, 1987
Captain Mar. 17, 1990
Major Mar. 30, 1994
Lieutenant Colonel May 27, 1999
Colonel Jul. 22, 2004
Brigadier General Apr. 1, 2016

(Current as of November 2016)



U.S. Air Force photo by Melissa Doublin

Ten of Team BLAZE's enlisted Airmen were promoted during the enlisted promotions ceremony May 31, 2017, at the Columbus Club on Columbus Air Force Base, Mississippi.

Ten enlisted Airmen promoted at ceremony

14th Flying Training Wing Public Affairs

Ten of Team BLAZE's enlisted Airmen were promoted during the enlisted promotion ceremony May 31, 2017, at the Columbus Club.

Promoted during the month of May were:

Airman Justin Weeter, 14th Civil Engineer Squadron

Airman 1st Class Ryan Heman-Ackah, 50th Flying Training Squadron

Airman 1st Class Devon Johnson,

14th CES
Senior Airman Cameron Budrow, 14th CES

Senior Airman Henry Scott, 14th CES
Staff Sgt. Angelynn Bailey, 14th Communications Squadron

Staff Sgt. Jake Camacho, 14th Contracting Squadron

Staff Sgt. Dimitri Muñoz, 14th Medical Operations Squadron

Staff Sgt. Jasmine Robinson, AFOSI Det 406

Master Sgt. Jimmy Kitchens, Wing Staff Agencies

Hunt Housing tip of the week



Remember to always give proper notice before moving out of base housing. Visit the housing office with orders in hand to complete the official notice to vacate form with a member of the housing team. A 30-day notice is required, but short-notice orders will not always allow for residents to give the full 30 days. You will also need to know your TMO pickup dates before any inspections can be scheduled.



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VBS still needs volunteers

Jessica Gloss

14th Flying Training Wing Chapel

Though the annual summer Vacation Bible School on Columbus Air Force Base is a chapel-sponsored event, it cannot take place without the help of others.

The 2017 VBS, "Rome: Paul and the Underground Church," takes place June 5 – 8 and is still in need of more volunteers.

This year the children will be divided into groups and travel to the different areas in "families" of up to 10. There will be one adult family leader and one assistant leader that will be at least 12 years old. Family leaders will have small activities to do with their group and they will lead them to

the different areas in Rome. We still need volunteers for these positions.

This year VBS is centered on performance art. We would really like to have people willing to act out short skits and even have people play extras in the background of the marketplace.

The marketplace will be the area where children will do crafts and eat snacks. Any help with crafts and snack time would be a great help.

Finally, help is needed with game time. This job is for someone with high energy who can demonstrate the games that will be played.

If you have any other questions or concerns please feel free to call 434-2949 or 434-2500.

14th Medical Group offers secure messaging

Airman 1st Class Beaux Hebert

14th Flying Training Wing
Public Affairs

A new system, the Patient Portal's Secure Messaging powered by RelayHealth, allows Airmen and their families to use the internet to access their healthcare.

"Secure Messaging is a new way to ask your provider non-emergency questions without going to the clinic," said Capt. Elizabeth Seitz, 14th Medical Group.

Airmen and families can request appointments and medication renewals, receive laboratory and radiology results, receive reminders about future appointments or tests and ask medical questions of their Nurse, Primary Care Manager, or Specialist.

Along with all the ways that patients can manage their health care, they can



access patient information handouts in the library feature.

The new system allows the 14th MDG to send out messages to its patients, such as flu immunizations availability.

There are three different ways to enroll into the free system. The first is at your next appointment; ask the clerk and they can enroll you on the spot. The second is to use your Common Access Card to email an e-Registration form. The third option is over the telephone by answering a set of questions that will help prove your identity to the

14th MDG.

Emails from RelayHealth sometimes get lost in Junk or Spam folder, especially the first one. To stop this, add their email to the Safe Senders list or "white list."

Once enrolled in the program, go to <https://app.mil.relayhealth.com> and select "register" then "patient." Fill out your information and add your health care provider or facility, Columbus Air Force Base. Verify your email address and add family members if applicable. Finally, accept the Secure Messaging invitations in your email.

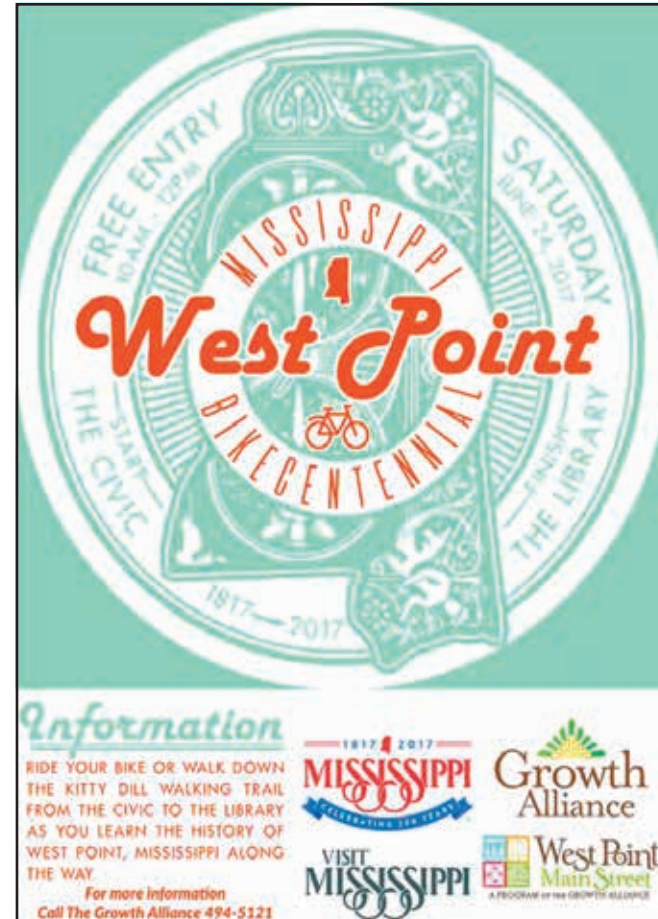
Security Forces: Did you know?



Did you know the AFI defines a Hands-Free Device as the use of a vehicle voice-activated system, cellular phone in speaker mode (not holding on to the device) or cell phone with a hands-free attachment (headset or single bud earpiece)?

Reference located within Air Force Instruction 91-207 Air Force Traffic Safety Program Attachment 1.

Please direct any questions and concerns to the Security Forces Operations section at 434-3154.



DUNFORD

(Continued from page 11)

when you graduate," Dunford said. "By the time that you make major, the United States Air Force is going to look much different even than it does today."

That kind of change will require a lifelong pursuit of education, he said, but one aspect of the military profession hasn't changed.

Human, not hardware, determines success

"At the end of the day, the military profession is about people," the general said. "The primary difference between success and failure on and off the battlefield has historically been about the human, not about the hardware. Notwithstanding all the changes in our profession ... I believe you can primarily attribute any success that we've had on the battlefield in our history to the actions of individual Sailors, Soldiers, Airmen and Marines. Their willingness to go out day after day and do what must be done has made the difference."

That willingness doesn't come from doctrine, techniques or new weapons systems or equipment, Dunford told the graduating class. "The will to endure when the going gets tough, the willingness to put yourself at risk and to put the needs of your wingman ahead of your own – all that comes from intangibles," he said.

The chairman quoted a World War I Marine who, when speaking of the dedication of the Marines in the regiment, spoke of "such things that regiments hand down forever." He told the young Air Force officers to think of it as "such things that squadrons hand down forever."

"I am referring to qualities like courage, honor, commitment, loyalty and selflessness," Dunford said.

Ordinary Airmen accomplishing extraordinary things

Dunford gave the graduates two examples of ordinary Airmen who accomplished extraordinary things. He spoke of Richard Brims, a 1971 Air Force Academy graduate who earned the Air Force Cross for his actions in rescuing the crew of the SS Mayaguez in May 1975 after it was seized by the Khmer Rouge in Cambodia. Brims and his squadron were dispatched to rescue the ship



Courtesy photo

U.S. Marine Corps Gen. Joseph F. Dunford, Jr., chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, delivers the commencement speech to the U.S. Air Force Academy Class of 2017 in Colorado Springs, Colorado, May 24, 2017. The over 900 graduates will go on to serve as second lieutenants across the Air Force.

and the crew of 39. Their job was to insert 200 Marines on the nearby island of Koh Tang.

The Khmer Rouge heavily defended the island, and the Marines and Airmen were met by a buzz saw. Soon, 11 helicopters were downed, leaving only three to extract the Marines left on the island. Brims returned to the landing zone twice.

"On his last trip, Lieutenant Brims made three unsuccessful attempts to land," Dunford said. "The Marines on the island tried to wave him off, saying it was too dangerous for him to land. But he wasn't going to leave those Marines. He landed and loaded 27 Marines."

He held his position under fire while one of his crewmen ran to the tree line to grab two other Marines who were laying down a base of suppressive fire to allow the evacuation to take place. "He is justly remembered as a hero," the general said. "But that hero sat right where you sit today. He walked the same halls, and he studied the same subjects. He's the same guy who was pulling pranks on graduation day. He was an ordinary Airman who did extraordinary things."

Heroism in Afghanistan

Dunford told the new officers they don't have to look far back for examples, citing Maj. Alex Hill, who was commissioned in 2006. In November, Hill commanded an AC-130 gunship called Spooky 43. It was providing overwatch for a team of 55 American and Afghan special operators that was ambushed and surrounded. Within minutes, the team took 20 casualties.

Hill and his crew launched into action and began firing at the enemy, mostly within about 40 yards of friendly forces – the very definition of the term "Danger Close."

Their actions allowed the ground forces to regroup, but didn't halt the enemy. Eventually, the gunship was shooting within 15 yards of the friendly forces. "In total, Spooky 43 fired 21 Danger Close missions that day and saved over 50 lives on the ground," Dunford said.

It was an impressive team achievement, and people can read about the mission on the Internet. But what the write-up doesn't say is it was the first deployment for four of the crew members, and the first combat mission for one of them. It doesn't say that one of the

sensor operators missed the crew brief that day because the major let him go off to see the video teleconference of a memorial service for one of his fellow Airmen. It doesn't say that one of the loadmasters was being treated for combat stress because he had a close encounter with a surface-to-air missile one year prior, right where that action took place, Dunford said.

"You won't read that when Major Hill landed to rearm and refuel, he put his hand on each of his crewmen and looked them in the eyes to see if they were OK," the general said. "He also asked them, 'Can you go back?' None of them hesitated. They all went back."

"Maj. Hill's crew performed that day not because he was a major, but because he was a leader with a warrior ethos. [Hill is] a leader who was technically and tactically competent, but also a leader who trusted and cared for his Airmen and earned their trust in return."

Leading from the front

Brims and Hill epitomize the idea that it wasn't about them and their individual actions, the nation's top military officer told the graduates. "It was about the Marines on Koh Tank Island and the special operators on the ground in Afghanistan," Dunford said. "It was about the crews. Your predecessors knew that individual competence, intellect and physical skills are all actually part of the sticker price for being an officer. You're not going to get any more credit for that after today. It is a given."

Those officers knew it was about leading from the front and instilling spirit in their units and a bond of trust within their crews, along with a commitment to excellence and to the mission, Dunford said.

"What's going to distinguish you as a leader is not your ability to develop cyber tools, fly a joint strike fighter or maintain satellite constellation – we expect you to do all that. You're graduates of the United States Air Force Academy," Dunford said.

"What is going to distinguish you as a leader is your personal example," he told the new officers. "Your ability to create an environment where those intangible qualities I spoke about -- those qualities that are passed down from one generation of Airmen to the next -- your task is to build an environment where those qualities flourish."

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

RPA culture continues innovation

Senior Airman Chase Cannon
49th Wing Public affairs

HOLLOMAN AIR FORCE BASE, N.M. — The RQ-1 Predator, later designated as the MQ-1, was the right aircraft at the right time following the events of Sept. 11, 2001.

While the nation was recovering from the largest attack in its history since the bombings of Pearl Harbor, members of the Pentagon prepared for a war they already knew would present new challenges the Defense Department had not faced before.

“We were able to arm the Predator at a critical time,” said retired Gen. John Jumper, a former Air Force chief of staff. “There is no other single enterprise in the Air Force that has produced results like (remotely piloted aircraft).”

Even though the arming of RPAs is standard practice for current operations, it was not always the clear choice.

“I had to kick down doors,” Jumper said. “If I had not been a four star general, (arming the RQ-1) never would have happened.”

One of the biggest obstacles while trying to accomplish the goal of arming the RQ-1 was the fear that the exhaust from the missile would blow the propeller off of the aircraft.

“We propped it on a stand on top of a mountain and aimed it at a target down in a valley,



U.S. Air Force photo by Senior Airman Chase Cannon
Retired Gen. John Jumper, a former Air Force chief of staff, meets leadership at Holloman Air Force Base, New Mexico, May 19, 2017. During his visit he was updated on current remotely piloted aircraft training, given a look into the possibilities of future unmanned aircraft technology, and attended virtual drone racing obstacle course demonstration. Jumper is most known within the RPA community for his work arming the MQ-1 Predator.

turned on the motor to see if it would blow the propeller off,” Jumper said.

The successful arming of the Predator was the first step in a series of events that led the RPA community to where it is today.

“There have been several milestones, I think the one that probably made the biggest

difference was when we were able to put the Hellfire missile on the Predator,” Jumper said. “We were able to do that at a critical time and have that capability matured by the time we started dealing with the (Islamic State of Iraq and Syria) crisis.”

The culmination of Jumper’s vision has led

to the constant use of RPAs by the DOD all over the world.

“The arming has probably made the biggest single difference that we have had so far, and I think that it has paid off in many ways,” Jumper said. “We are now carrying 500-pound bombs on the MQ-9 Reaper and that’s a big change.”

Jumper has been tirelessly pushing for the advancement of RPAs for years, and can be cited as a major advocate for their use.

“Retired Gen. John Jumper has been a leading advocate for remotely piloted aircraft since the 1990s, when he was a three star general,” said Col. Houston Cantwell, the 49th Wing commander. “He has been the strongest force behind the continued advancement of these technologies.”

RPAs are still advancing, with new innovations every year.

“These systems are going to be around for a while,” Jumper said. “We have got to be able to capitalize on the most precious thing we have with these vehicles, and that’s persistence. It is not payload, it is not speed, we have got aircraft that do that better. What we do have is persistence. Staying airborne for a long period of time, how do we make that better? Well, we build the next generation of these (technologies).”

Airmen stop woman from jumping off bridge

Ron Mullan
72nd Air Base Wing Public Affairs

TINKER AIR FORCE BASE, Okla. — What started as an ordinary day for three Airmen from Tinker Air Force Base soon turned into anything but ordinary. Their quick reaction and application of the Air Force’s wingman concept saved a life May 10, 2017.

Capt. Justin Phelps and 1st Lt. Camden Rogers of the 960th Airborne Air Control Squadron, were returning to base from lunch when they spotted a woman leaning over the edge of the bridge at I-40 near the Tinker Gate.

“We were stopped at the red light and looked toward our left and a woman was on the top of the bridge looking over, visibly crying and upset,” Rogers said.

Realizing that something wasn’t right, the two immediately took action. After pulling their car over to the side of the road, they scrambled up the grassy embankment attempting to engage the distraught woman. Spotting the two men climbing the embankment, Tech. Sgt. Corey Irwin, of the 552nd Operations Support Squadron, stopped his truck on the median of Air Depot Boulevard to block traffic and distracted the woman by talking to her from below allowing Phelps and Rogers to get close to her. “My instinct was, ‘Maybe I could catch her,’” Irwin said.



Courtesy photo
Capt. Justin Phelps, 1st Lt. Camden Rogers, both of the 960th Airborne Air Control Squadron, and Tech. Sgt. Corey Irwin, of the 552nd Operations Support Squadron, intervened when a woman was contemplating jumping off a bridge near Tinker Air Force Base, Oklahoma, May 10, 2017.

“Probably unrealistic, but if nothing else, it was a human face for her to see and to distract her.”

Not only were Phelps and Rogers worried about the woman jumping, they also had to contend with high-speed traffic on the interstate.

The woman, who was upset over family matters, told the two men that nobody cared and she just wanted to die.

Phelps knew it didn’t look like a good situation. “I’ve had too many friends, military and otherwise, that did not reach out prior to committing suicide, and sadly they’re no longer with us,” he said. “So it’s good to be able to help someone. If they are having a bad day, sometimes it just takes a good wingman getting involved and talking to one another.”

Phelps and Rogers eventually talked the woman into moving off the bridge and on to the side of the road until the Midwest City Police Department arrived to take her into protective custody and get her some help.

“This courageous action speaks volumes, and also reflects highly on the United States Air Force,” said Midwest City Police Chief Brandon Clabes. “From a law enforcement standpoint, this mental health crisis had the strong potential of a violent and tragic outcome.”

Clabes added this crisis was diverted through unselfish actions by active military members and “they saved one of the most precious things our world has to offer: a life.”

Airmen at Tinker AFB are trained in basic first aid as well as being able to identify and assist someone who might be in need. This incident was a great example of something they prepare for every day.

BLAZE Hangar Tails: F-15 Eagle

Mission

The F-15 Eagle is an all-weather, extremely maneuverable, tactical fighter designed to permit the Air Force to gain and maintain air supremacy over the battlefield.

Features

The Eagle’s air superiority is achieved through a mixture of unprecedented maneuverability and acceleration, range, weapons and avionics. It can penetrate enemy defense and outperform and out-fight any current enemy aircraft. The F-15 has electronic systems and weaponry to detect, acquire, track and attack enemy aircraft while operating in friendly or enemy-controlled airspace. The weapons and flight control systems are designed so one person can safely and effectively perform air-to-air combat.

The F-15’s superior maneuverability and acceleration are achieved through high engine thrust-to-weight ratio and low wing loading. Low wing-loading (the ratio of aircraft weight to its wing area) is a vital factor in maneuverability and, combined with the high thrust-to-weight ratio, enables the aircraft to turn tightly without losing airspeed.



U.S. Air Force photo by Airman 1st Class Abby Young
A row of F-15 Eagle aircraft from Kadena Air Base, Japan, line up before a takeoff. The F-15 Eagle is an all-weather, extremely maneuverable, tactical fighter designed to permit the Air Force to gain and maintain air supremacy over the battlefield.

A variety of air-to-air weaponry can be carried by the F-15. An automated weapon system enables the pilot to perform aerial combat safely and effectively, using the head-up display and the avionics and weapons controls located on the engine throttles or control stick. When the pilot changes from one weapon system to another, visual guidance for the required weapon automatically appears on the head-up display.

For low-altitude, high-speed penetration and precision attack on tactical targets at night or in adverse weather, the F-15E carries a high-resolution APG-70 radar and low-altitude navigation and targeting infrared for night pods

Background

The first F-15A flight was made in July 1972, and the first flight of the two-seat F-15B (formerly TF-15A) trainer was made in July 1973. The first Eagle (F-15B) was delivered in November 1974. In January 1976, the first Eagle destined for a combat squadron was delivered.

The single-seat F-15C and two-seat F-15D models entered the Air Force inventory beginning in 1979. These new models have Production Eagle Package (PEP 2000) improve-



U.S. Air Force photo by Senior Airman Laura Turner
An F-15 Eagle aircraft takes off from Elmendorf Air Force Base, Alaska. The F-15’s superior maneuverability and acceleration are achieved through high engine thrust-to-weight ratio and low wing loading.

ments, including 2,000 pounds (900 kilograms) of additional internal fuel, provision for carrying exterior conformal fuel tanks and increased maximum takeoff weight of up to 68,000 pounds (30,600 kilograms).

F-15C, D and E models were deployed to the Persian Gulf in 1991 in support of Operation

Desert Storm where they proved their superior combat capability. F-15C fighters accounted for 34 of the 37 Air Force air-to-air victories. F-15E’s were operated mainly at night, hunting SCUD missile launchers and artillery sites using the LANTIRN system.

They have since been deployed for air expeditionary force deployments and operations Southern Watch (no-fly zone in Southern Iraq), Provide Comfort in Turkey, Allied Force in Bosnia, Enduring Freedom in Afghanistan and Iraqi Freedom in Iraq.

General Characteristics

Primary function: Tactical fighter

Contractor: McDonnell Douglas Corp.

Power plant: Two Pratt & Whitney F100-PW-100, 220 or 229 turbofan engines with afterburners

Thrust: (C/D models) 23,450 pounds each engine

Wingspan: 42.8 feet (13 meters)

Length: 63.8 feet (19.44 meters)

Height: 18.5 feet (5.6 meters)

Weight: 31,700 pounds

Maximum takeoff weight: (C/D models) 68,000 pounds (30,844 kilograms)

Fuel Capacity: 36,200 pounds (three external plus conformal fuel tanks)

Payload: depends on mission

Speed: 1,875 mph (Mach 2 class)

Ceiling: 65,000 feet (19,812 meters)

Range: 3,450 miles (3,000 nautical miles) ferry range with conformal fuel tanks and three external fuel tanks

Crew: F-15A/C: one. F-15B/D/E: two

Armament: One internally mounted M-61A1 20mm 20-mm, six-barrel cannon with 940 rounds of ammunition; four AIM-9 Sidewinder and four AIM-120 AMRAAMs or eight AIM-120 AMRAAMs, carried externally.

Unit Cost: A/B models - \$27.9 million (fiscal 98 constant dollars);C/D models - \$29.9 million (fiscal 98 constant dollars)

Initial operating capability: September 1975

Inventory: Total force, 249

Leadership is not a position, it's an attitude

Lt. Col. James Winning
14th Operations Support
Squadron Commander

Often in the military, leadership is viewed as a title or position that one tries to achieve.

These titles and positions generally carry a degree of authority, potentially a parking spot and sometimes a government-issued cell phone.

However, these positions should never be confused with what leadership is and what it is not.

Leadership is not a position ... it's an attitude. I would

argue that leadership boiled down to its simplest form is the ability to influence others.

The scope of influence in the military is often associated with various positions and titles, but true leadership is the ability to inspire people to take a vision and accept it as their own.

In order for this type of influence to occur, a true leader must develop a relationship that is based on trust. This trust must incorporate direct and clear communication, consistency in action and words, transparency, competence, empathy and a positive, humble, servant attitude.

The bottom line is, leadership is granted by those who follow. Leadership cannot be demanded. Leadership cannot be coerced. Leadership must be earned.

In order for an organization to function properly, leadership must be incorporated into the fabric of a unit. Every member must be able to not only to follow, but also able step up and lead within their scope of influence. As long as everyone is working toward a common vision, the organization will flourish.

True leadership relies on developing relationships. Developing relationships relies on investing in people. Leadership is not a position ... It's an attitude, dude.

AF News

SILVER WINGS
June 2, 201711

Updated AtHoc alert system delivers urgent news directly to subscribers' fingertips

Capt. Jennifer Nentwig
Air Education and Training Command
Public Affairs

JOINT BASE SAN ANTONIO, RANDOLPH - Texas — Air Education and Training Command Airmen and their families have always been able to get information on the latest happenings at their location on their work computer, but now members and their families can receive immediate notifications through an improved AtHoc alert system and the new AtHoc mobile app available in the Apple App and Google Play Stores.

AtHoc is an emergency mass notification system that sends alerts to AETC members' computers and cell phones. Every military and civilian in AETC is required to maintain an up-to-date AtHoc profile, including an after-hours contact number, a work email address, and – if he or she has a duty cell phone – a duty cell contact number.

“We need all AETC members to sign up for AtHoc alert messages via SMS text messaging and download the mobile application,” said Lt. Gen. Roberson, AETC commander. “Rapidly and effectively alerting AETC Airmen and our families about emergency situations is a critical component to responding to these events and ensuring the safety of our people.”

By subscribing for cell phone calls or text messages through the newly updated, more efficient AtHoc alert system, users will receive notifications regarding a select category of emergency events that require immediate communication. Examples of situations in which are alerts sent to personal devices include active shooter events, hurricane conditions, tornado watches and warnings, security incidents, base closures and delayed reporting.



U.S. Air Force graphic by Senior Airman Chip Pons

“The command post can only send certain alerts to your personal device, and they aren’t always the same as the messages that pop up on your computer,” said Chief Master Sgt. John Morris Jr., AETC Command Post functional manager.

A listing of devices the installation command post sends alerts to for each respective incident is in Air Force Instruction 10-206 table 8.1, “EMNS Targeting Chart,” and can be viewed via the “HELP – Air Force Network” link in AtHoc.

“I’d say only one or two AtHoc alert messages go out to cell phones in an average month,” Morris said.

Members of the command post and the communications community are putting together a campaign to ensure all AETC members know about AtHoc, reaching out through channels such as newcomers’ orientations, base newspapers and websites, and emails from leadership. Based on the AETC requirements for individuals’ contact information, the team is striving to ensure 100 percent of AETC members have updated their profiles.

AETC members who receive notifications on their phones

will benefit by having close-to-real-time situational awareness.

“Let’s say there is a situation where there is bad weather, and your base initiates delayed reporting procedures. You could receive an immediate call or text message with that news,” Morris said. “Or you can look at a real-world situation like the shooting last year on Lackland’s Medina Annex. The JBSA command post sent out an alert that day to let people know there was an active shooter situation, so people who had subscribed to the alerts knew to stay away.”

The AtHoc alert system is an opt-in system, so members must manually update their profiles with their contact information to receive notifications on personal devices.

“AtHoc doesn’t pull from any existing systems like the global address list because we are asking for people’s personal, after-work contact information,” Morris said. “We implore everyone to sign up because it really is the quickest way to get important messages. AtHoc has continuously improved during the past six years and includes more features to ensure members have the latest information at their fingertips. It’s leaps and bounds better than the old recall roster system, where multiple people have to call multiple people.”

To ensure their AtHoc profiles are complete and up-to-date, AETC members can find the purple AtHoc icon at the bottom right corner of their desktop screens and right click on the icon. Next, select “Update My Info,” select a CAC certification and view the AtHoc self-service page. From there, users can update their personal information, their device information and their unit-specific information.

For answers to frequently asked questions, click on the AtHoc icon and go to the “Help” page. For additional information or technical assistance, contact your installation Communication Focal Point.

Dunford urges new AF officers to lead in Academy graduation address

Jim Garamone
DoD News, Defense Media Activity

WASHINGTON — While the new officers of the U.S. Air Force Academy’s Class of 2017 must never stop learning, it’s time to lead, the chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff said at graduation ceremonies in Colorado Springs, Colorado.

Marine Corps Gen. Joe Dunford thanked the 979 graduates for answering the call to duty in a very challenging time.

“The world changed when you were about 5 years old, and we’ve been at war now for almost 16 years,” he said. “Today, there are more than 100,000 Airmen standing watch around the world. Many are directly supporting combat operations and are joined

by thousands more Soldiers, Sailors and Marines.”

The general stressed the priority for the new officers changed today with their commissioning oath. “The focus is not on you anymore. It is not about your GPA, your MPA or your PEA,” he said, referring to their grade point average, military performance and physical education averages. “It’s not about the superintendent’s pin on your uniform, and it’s not about your accomplishments on the athletic field.

“After today, your success is seldom going to be measured by what you as an individual can achieve,” he continued. “Mostly it will be about what your squadron achieves. And it is going to be how you inspire those you lead to excellence that matters.”

Willingness to embrace, lead change

Flexibility is going to be key to any success the young officers will have in the service, Dunford said. “As you drive out the South Gate this afternoon, you need to do so with a willingness to embrace and lead change,” he said.

Dunford, who was commissioned in 1977, said flexibility is required because of the pace of change in the world. “In my own career, I can’t think of a time when the pace of change is even close to what it is today,” he said.

When he entered active duty, the chairman said, the Marines were still outfitted in cold-weather gear from the Korean War. “Our radios, our rifles and our machine guns were leftovers from Vietnam, he said. “The

jeeps would have been familiar to World War II veterans, and to be quite honest with you, so would the tactics.”

No more. From clothing to aircraft to command-and-control systems, service members are breaking new ground and that is driving strategy and tactics, Dunford said. “In the past four years, the world’s greatest Air Force has tripled the number of remotely piloted aircraft,” he added.

The service made similar advancements in space and command-and-control systems, as well as in cyber stealth and precision capabilities, he noted. The Air Force fielded the F-22 Raptor and is now fielding the F-35A Lightning II.

“The pace of change is not going to stop. See DUNFORD, Page 13

SAPR

Tug-of-War Tournament

“Show Your Strength”

Main Event: Create a team with no more or less than **6-10 people per team**

When: **June 15 @ 4 p.m.**
Sign-up: **NLT June 2** (Get with your Squadron Representative)

Where: **Tennis Court**

Columbus AFB Sexual-Assault Prevention and Response Team:
SAPR Program Manager: Dr. Marcia Stewart
Alternate SARC: 1st Lt Aimee St Cyr
SAPR VA: Ms. Carla Neal-Bush
VVA: SSgt Holly Sivard, SSgt Casey Washington, SSgt Roger White, and SSgt Braxton Crismore

Safe Helpline
Sexual Assault Support for the DoD Community
safehelpline.org / 877-499-9367

Ready to travel back in time?

COLUMBUS AIR FORCE BASE CHAPEL PRESENTS

Groups ROME

Vacation Bible School
Ages 5-12
Volunteers Needed:
- Crew Leaders: 18 yrs and older
- Assistant Crew Leaders: 12 yrs and older
- Child Care is available for volunteers' infants/toddlers
June 5th-8th 0900-1200

Volunteers Needed
Information & Registration
CALL: 434-2500

Bus Schedule

1. Magnolia 1	8:05
2. Magnolia 2	8:10
3. Magnolia 3	8:15
4. Magnolia 4	8:20
5. State 1	8:25
6. State 2	8:30
7. State 3	8:35
8. Capitol 1	8:40
9. Capitol 2	8:45
10. Youth Center	8:50

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Interested in saving the Air Force money and making a little yourself? As part of the Air Force



U.S. Air Force photo by Airman 1st Class Keith Holcomb
Team BLAZE Airmen gather outside of the Gene Smith Memorial Plaza for the Memorial Day Retreat Ceremony May 25, 2017, on Columbus Air Force Base, Mississippi. Memorial Day is a day for remembering the men and women who died in service of the United States of America.



U.S. Air Force photo by Senior Airman John Day
A two-ship T-1A Jayhawk formation performs a flyover to mark the end of the Memorial Day Retreat ceremony May 25, 2017, at Columbus Air Force Base, Mississippi. Capt. Jordan Pierson, who died Oct. 2, 2015, and whose name was added to the memorial wall, flew the T-1 as a student in Specialized Undergraduate Pilot Training Class 12-07.



U.S. Air Force photo by Senior Airman John Day
Senior Airman Luis Serrano Solano, Columbus Air Force Base Honor Guardsman, begins to play Taps during the Memorial Day Retreat Ceremony May 25, 2017, on Columbus AFB, Mississippi. The Memorial Day Ceremony honored our Nation's fallen airmen, soldiers, sailors, and marines, and included a special Memorial Service for Capt. Jordan Pierson.

Memorial Day ceremony honors CAFB graduate

Master Sgt. Amanda Savannah
14th Flying Training Wing
Public Affairs

Though the day was bright and warm, the crowd was quiet and somber during a Memorial Day ceremony at Gene Smith Plaza in front of the wing headquarters building here May 25, 2017.

In addition to honoring all military members who gave their lives in defense of the nation, the ceremony also paid special tribute to Capt. Jordan Pierson, a Columbus Air Force Base Specialized Undergraduate Pilot Training Class 12-07 graduate.

After graduating SUPT, Pierson was assigned to Dyess Air Force Base, Texas, to fly the C-130J Super Hercules aircraft as a member of the 317th Airlift Group. He died Oct. 2, 2015, in a tragic C-130J crash at Jalalabad Airfield, Afghanistan. He was the Aircraft Commander of TORQE 62 and was serving his second deployment to Afghanistan.

Pierson's name was added to the Gene Smith Plaza memorial wall during the event.

"Captain Pierson is just one of the many service members – brave Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen, Marines and Coast Guardsmen –

who died protecting their country and all it stood for," said Col. Douglas Gosney, 14th Flying Training Wing Commander. "They died defending a way of life ... the well-being of their families, the future of their children, for free choice, moral values and the responsibility we all share in a democratic society."

Pierson's family was also honored during the ceremony.

"Not only do we pay tribute to Captain Pierson, we also honor his family and friends, those left behind, those who paid a very personal price for us and our nation," Gosney said. "On behalf of all those pres-

ent today and the entire Team BLAZE: We are humbled by your sacrifice, inspired by your resilience and grateful for your continued service to your communities."

The commander then reminded the crowd of what Pierson's and all other lost members' sacrifices means.

"The sacrifices like those of TORQE 62 – along with a thousand others -- are strengthening new allies in the war on terror, and bringing hope, stability and progress to a troubled region," Gosney continued, "and, ultimately will lift a terrible threat from the lives of our children and grandchildren."

Lt. Col. Joseph Framptom, 40th Airlift Squadron Commander, was stationed at Dyess with Pierson and deployed with him on his first deployment to Afghanistan. He spoke about Pierson's insatiable thirst for knowledge, work ethic and dedication.

"Jordan was on a fast track to be an instructor pilot, but he never made it because of the tragic accident in Afghanistan," Framptom said. "Despite that, there's still quite a few things we can learn from the example that Jordan set and from Jordan himself."

"First of all, always strive to be the best that you can be, because Jordan did. Always learn as much as you can about the mission you're tasked to do, bring your A game every day, because Jordan did. And finally, in our business, we can never lose sight of the fact that sometimes even very simple mistakes can have tragic consequences."

Pierson's name joins the name of 84 other Columbus AFB pilot training graduates who have died in military aircraft accidents since 1972.

First Lt. Matt Herten, 48th Flying Training Squadron Instructor Pilot and narrator for the ceremony, also talked about the history of Memorial Day, which is believed to have begun in 1866 in Columbus, Mississippi, when a group of Southern women placed flowers on the graves of Union soldiers.

"News of this gesture swept the nation," Herten said. "In 1868, Gen. John A. Logan, national commander of a veteran's group called the Grand Army of the Republic, ordered his troops to observe May 30 as a special day 'for decorating the graves of the comrades who died in defense



U.S. Air Force photo by Melissa Dublin
Col. Douglas Gosney, 14th Flying Training Wing Commander, addresses the crowd at the Memorial Day Retreat Ceremony May 25, 2017, on Columbus Air Force Base, Mississippi. Gosney spoke about the meaning of Memorial Day and about Capt. Jordan Pierson, a former Columbus AFB Specialized Undergraduate Pilot Training student who lost his life protecting our freedom and way of life.

of their country and whose bodies lie in almost every village or hamlet churchyard in the land."

In 1882, Decoration Day was re-designated Memorial Day, saluting not only civil war dead, but the fallen warriors of all conflicts.

The ceremony also included a 21-gun salute, the playing of Taps and a T-1A Jayhawk formation flyover.

"On behalf of a grateful nation and wing, we salute our fallen comrades and pledge that we will never forget," Herten said.



U.S. Air Force photo by Airman 1st Class Keith Holcomb
Senior Airman Jacob Bolton, Columbus Air Force Base Honor Guardsman, unveils the name of a former 14th Flying Training Wing Airman during a formal Memorial Day Retreat Ceremony May 25, 2017, at the Gene Smith Plaza on Columbus Air Force Base, Mississippi. One side of the plaza wall displays the names of previously assigned Columbus AFB pilots who were killed in military aircraft accidents. Capt. Jordan Pierson, a Specialized Undergraduate Pilot Training Class 12-07 graduate, died Oct. 2, 2015, in a tragic C-130J Super Hercules crash in Jalalabad Airfield, Afghanistan.