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# SILVER WINGS

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“Produce Pilots, Advance Airmen, Feed the Fight”

Columbus Air Force Base, Miss.

July 21, 2017

Vol. 41, Issue 28

## Weather

<b>Friday</b>  Partly Cloudy High 95°F Low 75°F	<b>Saturday</b>  Partly Cloudy, Chance of PM Thunderstorms High 93°F Low 74°F
<b>Sunday</b>  Partly Cloudy, Chance of PM Thunderstorms High 90°F Low 73°F	<b>Monday</b>  Partly Cloudy, Chance of PM Thunderstorms High 87°F Low 73°F

Forecast provided by the 14<sup>th</sup> OSS Weather Flight.

## News Briefs

### Air University Instructor Visit

Instructors from Air University will visit Columbus Air Force Base July 24. Retired Lt. Gen. Allen Peck, and retired Cols. Edwin Redman and Jim Forsyth will be the event's speakers.

### Civil Air Patrol SUPT Familiarization Course

Civil Air Patrol will visit Columbus Air Force Base from July 24-28 to take a Specialized Undergraduate Pilot Training Familiarization Course. CAP is the official auxiliary force of the U.S. Air Force.

### SUPT Class 17-12 Graduation

Specialized Undergraduate Pilot Training Class 17-12 graduates at 10 a.m. July 28 at the Kaye Auditorium. The guest speaker will be retired Col. Michael Speer, a Boeing 767 pilot for Federal Express.

## Inside



### Feature 8

The Commissary changes are highlighted in this week's feature.



U.S. Air Force photo by Airman 1st Class Keith Holcomb

Airman 1st Class Abigail Cruz, 14th Medical Operations Squadron Mental Health Technician, briefs Col. William Denham, 14th Flying Training Wing Vice Commander, July 18, 2017, on Columbus Air Force Base, Mississippi. Behavior Health has numerous programs to help Airmen and other base members with a range of needs.

# Denham makes rounds, learns ropes of 14th FTW mission

### Airman 1st Class Keith Holcomb

14th Flying Training Wing Public Affairs

Col. William Denham, 14th Flying Training Wing Vice Commander, visited the L3 contracted maintainers and the 14th Mission Support Group on July 17 and the 14th Medical Group from July 18 on Columbus Air Force Base, Mississippi.

Denham has visited numerous organizations since his arrival

to learn the basic operations at Columbus AFB and how each team contributes to the mission.

“It's an honor and a privilege to be here,” Denham said. “Seeing everything that goes on at Columbus, the first impressions show it's really an entire team effort.”

Denham received the pros and cons from each briefer he

See DENHAM, Page 3

## 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 (18-05)	0.94 days	1.17 days	July 21	48th (17-12)	-5.41 days	-2.17 days	July 28	49th (17-JBC)	-4.33 days	-1.99 days	July 21	T-6	1,532	1,748	25,541				
41st (18-06)	1.15 days	0.39 days	Aug. 11	50th (17-12)	-1.98 days	0.71 days	July 28	* Mission numbers provided by 14 FTW Wing Scheduling.				T-1	400	422	6,700				
The graduation speaker for SUPT Class 17-12 graduation on July 28 is retired Col. Michael Speer, a Boeing 767 captain for Federal Express.												T-38	562	553	8,867				
												IFF	233	240	3,749				

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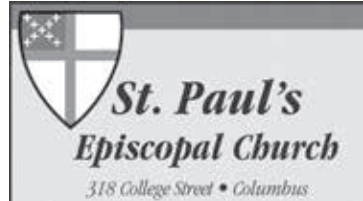
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**SUNDAY EVENING**  
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Discipleship Training - 5pm  
Evening Worship - 6pm

**WEDNESDAY**  
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Adult/Youth Bible Study, RAs, GAS  
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# 14TH FLYING TRAINING WING DEPLOYED

As of press time, 26 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.*

## 14th CONS command switches hands



Col. Anthony Sansano, 14th Mission Support Group Commander, passes the 14th Contracting Squadron guidon to Maj. Stuart Perlow, the 14th CONS new Commander July 14, 2017 at Columbus Air Force Base, Mississippi. Perlow was recently an Education with Industry Fellow at the Intel Corporation, Air Force Institute of Technology, in Portland, Oregon.

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat/Sun	Long Range Events
24 ALS Class 17-06	25			28	29/30	Aug. 7: 14th MDG CoC Aug. 8: Wing Newcomers Brief Aug. 11: Senior NCO Induction Aug. 11: BCC Lunch Aug. 12-13: Autocross Aug. 18: SUPT Class 17-13 Graduation Aug. 24: ALS Graduation Aug. 25: SUPT Class 17-14 Assignment Night Aug. 29: Wing Newcomers Sept. 1: AETC Family Day Sept. 4: Labor Day Sept. 8: SUPT Class 17-14 Graduation Sept. 11: Patriot Day
Civil Air Patrol SUPT Familiarization Course						
Air University Instructor visit						
31 ALS Class 17-06	1	2	3	4	5/6	
Enlisted Promotions/Quarterly Awards, 3 p.m. @ Club				End of Summer Bash, Noon - 5 p.m. @ Freedom Park SUPT Class 17-13 Assignment Night, 5:30 p.m. @ Club		
		Hearts Apart, 5 p.m. @ A&FRC		SUPT Class 17-12 Graduation, 10 a.m. @ Kaye		

## 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

Staff Sgt. Christopher Gross  
NCOIC, Command Information

Airman 1st Class Beaux Hebert  
Editor

Airman 1st Class Keith Holcomb  
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.*

## NEWS AROUND TOWN

### July 21

Columbus Speedway hosts Military Appreciation Night at 8 p.m. July 21 with free admission to all military ID card holders. Columbus Speedway is Mississippi's oldest dirt track and the event will be featuring Nesmith Dirt Late Model weekly racing series. For more information contact Rod Taylor at (662) 436-1642.

### July 25-28

Lion Hills Center and Golf Course is hosts a Junior Golf Camp July 25-28. Contact Lion Hills at (662) 328-4837 for more information.

### Aug. 19

The Possum Town Triathlon is scheduled for Aug. 19 at Columbus Lake in Columbus, Mississippi. The race starts at 7 a.m., and competition features a 600-yard swim, 17-mile bike ride and 3.3-mile run. For more information visit [http://visitcolumbusms.org/index.php/upcoming\\_events/info/1090#top](http://visitcolumbusms.org/index.php/upcoming_events/info/1090#top).

### Aug. 19

The Golden Triangle Comic Con 2017 is scheduled for Aug. 19 on the top floor of the Trotter Center at 123 Fifth St. North, Columbus, Mississippi. For more information, visit <http://gtcomiccon.com/>.



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The Bargain Line is free for all military members (including guard and reserve members), DOD civilians, military retirees, family members and contract employees.

Bargain Line advertisements must be turned in to the Silver Wings office in the 14th Flying Training Wing headquarters building by noon Monday to be included in the following week's issue. Late ads will be held over for the next issue.

Renuns must be phoned in to the Silver Wings office, 434-7068, by noon Monday for inclusion in the next week's issue. Please do not re-submit ads for rerun on this form. Advertisements should contain a home phone number, home address or both. Duty phone numbers will not appear in the ads.

Advertisements for private businesses or services providing a continuous source of income, such as baby-sitting or rental property, may not appear in the Bargain Line. They may, however, be purchased through the Silver Wings publisher, 328-2424. Please fill out this form completely. The Silver Wings staff reserves the right to edit ads as necessary.

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---

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# DUI: What it really costs

Airman 1st Class Lauren M. Sprunk  
23rd Wing Public Affairs

MOODY AIR FORCE BASE, Ga. — Airman A epitomized what every stellar Airman should be. He passed every test with flying colors, volunteered during his free time, and went above and beyond during his everyday job. He had just received Senior Airman below-the-zone, a promotion given six months early, and went out to celebrate.

Before he knew it, red and blue lights were flashing behind him. Through blurry eyes, he attempted to walk in a straight line and blow through a breathalyzer, the number flashing back was beyond the legal limit. Airman A had thought he was fine after the few drinks he had that night but he quickly learned what those drinks would really cost him.

When an Airman receives a DUI charge, they are eligible to receive both a civilian conviction if caught off base, as well as a punishment given at their commander's discretion. The final sentence could cost thousands of dollars in fines, suspension of their license, negative paperwork, administrative demotion, and possible loss of career or reclassification.

"Every time you put yourself behind the wheel after you've been drinking, you're jeopardizing your freedom, your money and even your career," said Master Sgt. Klextion Jett, the 723rd Aircraft Maintenance Squadron first sergeant. "Above all, you're putting yourself in a situation where you could take someone's life or take your own life. Why would you put yourself in that situation?"

Once an Airman is charged with a DUI, they are immediately arrested and taken to county jail. When the local authorities keep jurisdiction of the DUI, the Airman's license will be suspended both on and off base for usually more than a year, and they will be charged with fines of at least \$1,000.

Once the Airman is processed into the county jail, the security forces squadron law enforcement desk or command

post on base will be notified and the Airman's leadership will be contacted. The Airman will be released once their bail is paid or depending on the county, they may be released to their first sergeant or commander.

"Once we get the call, it's my role to make sure the Airman is as taken care of as well as they can be and start working to get them out," said Jett. "They already know what they did is wrong so we're just trying to make sure they get home and taken care of."

After the Airman is home and recovered, they must report to their commander in their service dress uniform to discuss what happened and what their punishment will be.

"(Legal) will talk with the Airman's commander and advise them what the appropriate course of action should be," said 1st Lt. Cristina Solis, a 23rd Wing assistant staff judge advocate. "An Airman can receive a letter of reprimand, an unfavorable information file, an administrative demotion, and be placed on a control roster, making them ineligible to deploy, attend formal training or receive a new assignment."

"In my experience, commanders will give all four as punishment," Solis added.

Though negative paperwork may not cause an immediate end to an Airman's career, it can have serious long-term effects, making an Airman ineligible to promote on their next enlisted performance report cycle. If an Airman does not promote prior to high year tenure (the designated amount of time given to reach their next rank), they are released from the Air Force.

In addition, Airmen in particular career fields such as security forces could be removed from their specific career field and be reclassified into a new career.

"Depending on where you're at in your career, it could be the end," said Jett. "It's not like you just came in late for work, you got a DUI. That is something that sticks with you through your career and you could still see punishments for it



U.S. Air Force illustration by Airman 1st Class Lauren M. Sprunk  
**Airman 1st Class Erick Requadt, a 23rd Wing photojournalist, simulates a field sobriety test, July 7, 2017, at Moody Air Force Base, Georgia. When an Airman receives a driving under the influence charge, they are eligible to receive both a civilian conviction if caught off base, as well as a punishment given at their commander's discretion. The final sentence could cost thousands of dollars in fines, suspension of their license, negative paperwork, administrative demotion and possible loss of career or reclassification.**

even months down the line."

Although Airman A is not a real Airman, he represents the fate of some Airmen today. Everyone has seen him, whether it's walking through the commissary or sitting beside him in their squadron. Despite who the Airman is, according to Jett, the most common reason for DUIs is a lack of planning.

To overcome this issue, there are resources available to Airmen such as Airmen Against Drunk Driving, taxi services and an Airmen's leadership.

"I always tell my Airmen that they can call me any time," said Jett. "I'd rather have to do that at 2 a.m. than to have to give a casualty briefing or brief my commander that we have a member locked up. That's what we're here for."

## Air Force releases first-term Airman retraining quotas for FY18

Kat Bailey  
Air Force Personnel Center  
Public Affairs

JOINT BASE SAN ANTONIO-RANDOLPH, Texas — Eligible active-duty first-term Airman may choose from more than 1,400 approved retraining quotas in over 20 career fields for fiscal year 2018.

Retraining allows enlisted Airmen, to include staff and technical sergeants on their first enlistment, to retrain into skills where a shortage exists, in conjunction with a re-enlistment.

"A first-term Airman can apply to retrain into one of the open quotas found in the FTA column of the retraining advisory on myPers, provided they meet the eligibility

requirements," said Master Sgt. Kris Reece, the Air Force Personnel Center enlisted retraining superintendent.

AFPC updates the enlisted retraining advisory on myPers in real time, Reece said, which helps Airmen identify the career fields with retraining-in quotas available in their grade, or projected grade if already selected for promotion.

Retraining opportunities are available in a variety of career fields, including cyber, safety, flight engineer, command and control operations, and more. Most are open to all eligible Airmen, but some, such as the cyber warfare operations AFSC, require prior qualification.

"We advise potential applicants to check the retraining advisory and notes closely to

avoid delays in the application process, particularly regarding eligibility," Reece said. "Retraining is a great opportunity for Airmen to pursue a different career field while enabling the Air Force to maintain a healthy balance in all enlisted career fields."

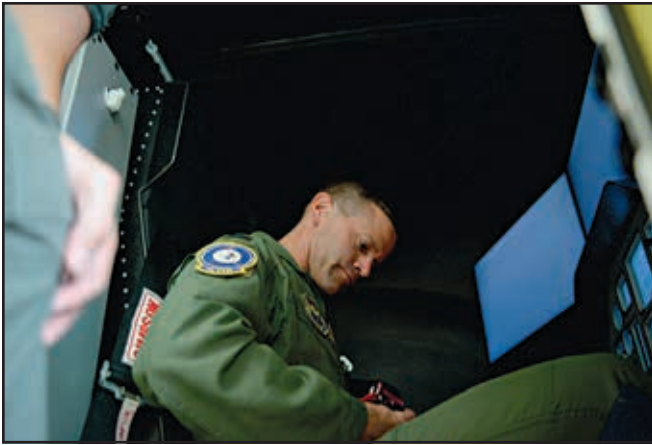
The Air Force Work Interest Navigator, available on the retraining page on myPers, is another tool Airmen may use to identify potential career fields of interest by answering a series of questions about functional communities, job context and work activities.

"The AF-WIN tool creates a customized job-interest report from your responses and compares your interests to all entry-level AFSCs," Reece said. "You'll still want to visit the enlisted retraining advisory because

AF-WIN doesn't tell you if a career field is available or if you meet the eligibility qualifications."

Retraining information is available and continuously updated on myPers. Click "Retraining" from the active-duty enlisted landing page. The online training advisory is listed under the "Tools" section. In addition, a live chat feature is available for Airmen on the "First Term Airmen Retraining" page. To chat live with a Total Force Service Center representative, go to the page and allow about 30 to 60 seconds for a representative to come online.

For more information about Air Force personnel programs, go to myPers. Individuals who do not have a myPers account can request one by following the instructions.



**Col. William Denham, 14th Flying Training Wing Vice Commander, straps into a GYRO Integrated Physiological Trainer II July 18, 2017, on Columbus Air Force Base, Mississippi. Denham used his 2,700 flight hours and executed three simulated flights in a row with little to no issues.**

### DENHAM

(Continued from page 1)

interacted with, to better equip him to be an effective wing vice commander.

Denham started July 17 with a few handshakes and briefings by select members from L3 maintainers.

They discussed their role, their contracts with the Air Force base and how they have an impact on producing pilots.

Afterward, Denham met with Col. Anthony Sansano, 14th MSG Commander, to visit the Fire Protection station.

Fire Protection Airmen showed Denham firsthand some of the training the Fire Protection performs on a regular basis, some of the gear used during emergencies, and the Fire Protection station's accommodations.

On the way to the Communications Building, Denham was briefed by 14th MSG squadron commanders on many different buildings purposes.

Communications showed their computers and cooling systems, explained their roles and

sent Denham on to the Security Forces Warehouse.

A traditional perimeter check and all-terrain vehicle ride with Sansano and Maj. Eric Eaton, 14th Security Forces Squadron Commander showed choice areas the commanders wanted more security to accommodate additional activities.

Denham met with 14th Medical Group July 18, where Col. Imelda Reedy, 14th MDG Commander greeted him at the Koritz Clinic.

Airman 1st Class Abigail Cruz, 14th Medical Operations Squadron Mental Health Technician, briefed Denham on various programs Columbus AFB offers Airmen who are seeking help.



**Col. William Denham, 14th Flying Training Wing Vice Commander, listens to Col. Anthony Sansano, 14th Mission Support Group Commander, as they talk about the perimeter July 17, 2017, on Columbus Air Force Base, Mississippi. There were a few choice areas Sansano pointed out to Denham where Security Forces would like to provide extra security to accommodate additional activities.**

*"The tempo here is still fast with a graduation every three weeks, but I'm looking forward the most to be able to spend more time with my family," Denham said. "I'm looking forward to a lot here."*

From Physical Therapy to the Pharmacy, then up to the Dental Clinic, 14th MDG Airman and sergeants briefed their jobs and the unit's duties to Denham.

After every brief Denham asked each Airman how they like Columbus AFB and why, and after a few jokes and some small talk the immersion continued.

The next stop was across the base at Aerospace and Operational Physiology.

Airman 1st Class Queneth Salazar, 14th MDOS AOP Technician, led Denham around the halls, showing the classrooms and training rooms student pilots use throughout their training.

At the end of the tour, Salazar showed



U.S. Air Force photo by Airman 1st Class Keith Holcomb  
**Col. William Denham, 14th Flying Training Wing Vice Commander, watches from the passenger seat of a P-19 Stryker as a fireman put out a simulated aircraft fire July 17, 2017, on Columbus Air Force Base, Mississippi. Fire Protection uses the metal aircraft to simulate a crash and practice their emergency response procedures.**

Denham a spatial disorientation simulator use to help pilots correct for different challenges they may face during their time flying.

Denham used his 2,700 flight hours and executed three simulated flights in a row with little to no issues.

After leaving the last immersion Denham said he felt confident with the knowledge he gained from the immersion experiences.

"Everyone has an important role in this pilot training process," Denham said. "From the maintainers turning the wrenches to the Airmen in Finance or Dental, we all contribute to the mission and it's really cool to see."

Compared to his last assignment as the Chief of Combat Plans for the 609th Air Operations Center at Al Udeid Air Base, Qatar, Denham said he is glad he'll be able to spend more time with his family.

"The tempo here is still fast with a graduation every three weeks, but I'm looking forward the most to be able to spend more time with my family," Denham said. "I'm looking forward to a lot here."

## Renter's insurance no longer covered under BAH

Kay Quinlan  
Housing Program Manager

According to the Defense Travel Management Office, Basic Allowance for Housing is "a U.S.-based allowance prescribed by geographic duty location, pay grade, and dependency status. It provides uniformed service members equitable housing compensation based on housing costs in local civilian housing markets within the United States when government quarters are not provided."

BAH is important and instrumental to providing service members and their families the ability to obtain suit-

able-quality housing.

The BAH program also impacts critical decisions regarding recruitment and retention of the armed forces. Due to the immense amount of money involved, BAH significantly influences the budgetary and financial decisions of the Defense Department, individual service members and their families, and everyone in between.

In 2015, the DOD announced a major change that affected service members' BAH. The fiscal year 2015 National Defense Authorization Act eliminated renter's insurance as a component of BAH.

The two components of BAH are rent and utilities, including electricity, heat, water and sewer. BAH rates aim to accurately reflect median-priced rental costs and average utility costs for suitable-quality housing within each of the 301 Military Housing Areas in the U.S.

Despite this change last year, Columbus Air Force Base's privatized housing partner, Hunt Military Communities, continued to provide full renter's insurance, including personal property coverage, for all current residents until Feb. 1, 2017. Hunt no longer provides renter's insurance to service members. All residents are highly encouraged to purchase their own renter's insurance.



# Speer scheduled to speak at SUPT Class 17-12 graduation

The keynote speaker for Specialized Undergraduate Pilot Training Class 17-12 graduation is retired Col. Michael L. Speer. Speer, a second generation

Air Force pilot will pass his wings on to his son, Capt. Michael Speer, the third generation of military pilots in the Speer family. The elder Speer graduated from UPT in 1968 at Laughlin AFB, Texas.

Speer was the Vice Commander, 315th Airlift Wing, Charleston Air Force Base, South Carolina when he retired in 2010.

Speer separated from active duty in 1995 and joined Federal Express and the Air Force Reserves to continue flying the C-141 and the C-17 at Charleston.

Speer graduated from Penn State University in 1984 and commissioned through the Air Force ROTC program. Speer attended pilot training at Vance AFB, Oklahoma in Class 85-06 and was selected to stay on as a T37 First Assignment Instructor Pilot with the 8th Flying Training Squadron.

A command pilot, he has logged more than 7,500 flying hours in military aircraft and 10,000 hours in commercial aircraft. He is currently a Boeing 767 captain for Federal Express.

Col. Speer and his wife, Barbara, have been married for 32 years and have two sons: Captains Andrew and Michael Speer.

## EDUCATION:

1984 Penn State University, University Park, Pennsylvania

1989 Squadron Officers School, Maxwell Air Force Base, Alabama

2000 Air Command and Staff College, Maxwell Air Force Base, Alabama

2004 Air War College, Maxwell Air Force Base, Alabama

## ASSIGNMENTS:

1. 1984-1985, Student, Undergraduate Pilot Training, Vance Air Force Base, Oklahoma

2. 1985-1989, T-37 Examiner-Instructor Pilot, Scheduler, Unit Stan/Eval Monitor, Runway Supervisory Unit Controller, Wing Spin Pilot, Assistant Flight Commander, Vance Air Force Base, Oklahoma

3. 1989-1991, C-141 Pilot, 41st Airlift Squadron,

Charleston Air Force Base, South Carolina

4. 1991-2004, C-141 Examiner Pilot, C-17 Examiner Pilot, Flight Commander, Safety Officer, Chief of Training, Chief Pilot, 300th Airlift Squadron, Charleston Air Force Base, South Carolina

5. 2004-2006, Commander, 701st Airlift Squadron, Charleston Air Force Base, South Carolina

6. 2006-2008, Deputy Director of Operations, 22nd Air Force, Dobbins Air Reserve Base, Georgia

7. 2008-2010, Vice Wing Commander, 315th Airlift Wing, Charleston Air Force Base, South Carolina

## FLIGHT INFORMATION:

Rating: Command Pilot

Flight Hours: 7,500 military hours

Aircraft Flown: T-37, T-38, C-141B, C-17A

## MAJOR AWARD AND DECORATIONS:

Legion of Merit

Air Force Meritorious Service Medal with three oak leaf clusters

Air Medal

Aerial Achievement Medal

Air Force Commendation Medal with two oak leaf clusters

Air Force Achievement Medal with two oak leaf clusters

Joint Meritorious Unit Award

Air Force Outstanding Unit Award with seven oak leaf clusters

Combat Readiness Medal with seven oak leaf clusters

National Defense Service Medal with one device

Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal with two devices

Southwest Asia Service Medal with three devices

Kosovo Campaign Medal

Global War on Terrorism Service Medal

Humanitarian Service Medal with one device

Air Force Longevity Service with four devices

Armed Forces Reserve medal with one 'M' device

Small Arms Expert marksmanship Ribbon (Pistol)

Air Force Training Ribbon

Kuwait Liberation Medal Kingdom of Saudi Arabia

Kuwait Liberation medal Government of Kuwait

## EFFECTIVE DATES OF PROMOTION:

Second Lieutenant May 30, 1984

First Lieutenant May 30, 1986

Captain May 30, 1988

Major Oct 01, 1997

Lieutenant Colonel Sept 12, 2002

Colonel Aug 01, 2006

## Team BLAZE recognizes Maj. selects

Michael Cavanaugh

Ryan Claussen

Donald Clemson

Travis Cord

James Couch

Bradley Davis

James Davis

Amani Evensen

Colin Ford

Christopher Higginbotham

Thomas Hyde

James Kareis

Kurtis Kendrick

Patrick Lasher

Michael Lewis

Tory Lodmell

Adrian Marrero

Michael Reese

Eric Riethman

Jesse Rosal

Scott Siler

Jonathan Skinner

Ryan Sullivan

William Swinonos

Michael Thornbury

Kelly Van Gundy

John Vandervoort

Andrew Wuebold

14th Operations Group

50th Flying Training Squadron

41st Flying Training Squadron

37th Flying Training Squadron

49th Fighter Training Squadron

14th Student Squadron

14th STUS

50th FTS

41st FTS

48th Flying Training Squadron

50th FTS

50th FTS

41st FTS

37th FTS

14th SS

48th FTS

14th Medical Operations Squadron

41st FTS

41st FTS

37th FTS

48th FTS

37th FTS

37th FTS

48th FTS

41st FTS

14th STUS

41st FTS

48th FTS

## Columbus AFB recognizes TSgt selects

Congratulations to the following staff sergeants selected for promotion:

Aimee Boxell, 14th Operations Support Squadron

Aubrey Daniels, 14th Flying Training Wing Staff Agency

Janessa Ebbert, 14th Security Forces Squadron

Michael Flanagan, 14th SFS

Christopher Gross, 14th FTW Public Affairs

Cade Jackson, 81st Fighter Squadron

Mia Johnson, 14th Force Support Squadron

Lloyd Krugman, 14th Contracting Squadron

Stephen McCallister, 14th Medical Operations Squadron

Logan Richey, 14th Medical Support Squadron

Holly Sivard, 14th FTW WSA

Zachary Smart, 14th OSS

Nikiah Trimble, 49th Fighter Training Squadron

Shayna Wasden, 14th MDOS

## New in-processing policy for Finance

In-processing for Finance will now be at 9 a.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays. Walk-ups are no longer being serviced for new arrivals' initial in-processing, if they have follow-up questions after they have completed their initial in-processing then they can walk up anytime between 7:30 a.m.-3 p.m. For more information call 434-2705.

## 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.)

### Transition Assistance Program GPS Workshop

This workshop is from 7:30 a.m.-4 p.m. July 17-21. The Transition Assistance Program Workshop has seminars on transition, military occupational code crosswalk, financial planning, health benefits, Mississippi Department of Employment Security, Department of Veterans Affairs, Disabled TAP, and the Department of Labor TAP portion. Pre-separation counseling is required before attending. Recommend attendance is eight to 12 months prior to separation/retirement. Spouses are encouraged to attend with their sponsor. For more information or to register call 434-2839.

### VA Home Loan Seminar

The Department of Veterans Affairs Home Loan Guaranty Division presents a seminar from 1-3 p.m. July 20. It includes information for active duty and veterans on using their VA entitlements to purchase their homes. It will consist of a presentation and Q&A session. For more information or to register call 434-2790.

### Career Technical Training

This transition event is from 8 a.m.-3 p.m. July 24-25 and explores technical careers for post military personnel using VA educational benefits. It is conducted by CALIBRE, private company contracted by the VA. Prior registration is required, company requires 10 days notification and must have minimum of eight participants. For more information or to register call 434-2790.

### Federal USAJobs Workshop

This workshop from 9-10:30 a.m. July 26 is on writing resumes, completing applications, and job searching using USAJobs. For more information or to register call 434-2790.

### Bundles of Joy

Two Bundles of Joy workshops have been scheduled for July 26 and Aug. 17, each from 1-3:30 p.m. for active-duty families assigned to Columbus Air Force Base who are expecting or have a child up to four months of age. It is an Air Force Aid Society program with presentations about TRICARE, child care, breastfeeding, car seat safety, labor and delivery. For more information or to register, call 434-2790.

### Hearts Apart

The Hearts Apart Social program from 5-7 p.m. July 27 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 temporary duty. Food and activities are provided. For more information or to register call 434-2790.

## Airmen show off their patriotism with 5k



U.S. Air Force photo by Airman 1st Class Beaux Hebert  
**Team BLAZE members show off their patriotism at the 5K Independence Run July 14, 2017, at Columbus Air Force Base, Mississippi. Maintaining a high fitness level is part of an Airman's responsibility Comprehensive Airman Fitness.**

### Resume and Cover Letter

The Resume and Cover letter workshop starts 9-10:30 a.m. Aug. 2. The workshop helps with preparing and writing an effective civilian resume and cover letter. To sign up, call 434-2839/2790.

### Wing Newcomers Orientation

The orientation is from 8 a.m.-3 p.m. Aug. 8, and is mandatory for newly arrived active-duty and civilian personnel. Spouses are encouraged to attend. The orientation is held at the Columbus Club. For more information or to register call 434-2790.

### Heart Link for Spouses

This event is from 8:00 a.m.-noon Aug. 10 at the Columbus Club. It's for spouses new to Columbus AFB or the military lifestyle. It is a fun-filled spouse orientation program with info on protocol, finance, benefits, helping agencies, local conditions and prizes. It is a great way to meet others new to Columbus. To register and for more information, call 434-2790.

### Smooth Move

The Smooth Move class is from 10-11:30 a.m. Aug. 15. The class provides relocating members/families with valuable information about moving. You learn what to expect from the Travel Management Office, housing, military pay, legal, billerling, TRICARE, medical records, and the Airman and Family Readiness Center. To register, call 434-2790.

### 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 takes place 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 Airman and Family Readiness Center. 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 deployments, reintegration, and life challenges such as martial issues, parenting, career stress and anger. All consultants are licensed mental health pro-

viders. 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.

### School Liaison Officer

The Columbus Air Force Base School Liaison Officer works with local school districts, schools, parents and students on issues related to elementary and secondary education for the children of all personnel (civilian, military and contractor) assigned to the installation. As parents of school-age children are aware, there are many unique issues our children face as they transition to new schools. The role of the School Liaison Officer is to assist families and ensure their children receive the best possible education regardless of where they attend school. For assistance, please contact the School Liaison Officer at 434-2792 or via email at slo@us.af.mil.

### Home School Registration

The School Liaison Office would like to remind parents of the State of Mississippi law governing school attendance as it pertains to families who home school. Parents who are teaching their children at home (home school) are required to complete a certificate of enrollment card each school year. Please contact the School Liaison Officer at 434-2792 or via email at slo@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.

### Catholic Community

**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

Fellowship Dinner after Mass on 1st and 3rd

Sundays of the month

**Tuesdays:**

11:30 a.m. – Daily Mass

**Wednesdays:**

11:30-12:30 p.m. – Adoration

### Protestant Community

**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

### Ecumenical services

**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



### Columbus Air Force Base Information and Events

Join our Facebook page at Columbus AFB Living, Twitter @columbusafbliving, Instagram at columbus\_afb\_living, 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.

### Summer Fest Bowling

Every Friday in July, enjoy 15 percent off bowling from 5:30 p.m. to close. Call 434-3426 for more information.

### Library Summer Reading Program

The Library Summer Reading Program has begun. Please see the Library for the schedule of activities.

### The Overrun Lunch Menu gets an Upgrade

The Overrun’s lunch menu is fresh and improved. The Overrun is located in the Columbus Club and is open from 11 a.m.-1:30 p.m. Tuesday through Friday.

### The Café at Whispering Pines is Open

The café is now open from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. with a fresh new lunch menu.

### BLAZE Commons Coffee House on 5th

The BLAZE Commons Coffee House on 5th is open from 6 a.m.-4 p.m. Monday–Friday and serves coffee items, smoothies, breakfast and lunch items. Drive-thru service available as well as call ahead. Call 434-CAFÉ (2233). The Commons also houses the Library,an Information, Tickets and Tours, and Outdoor Recreation kiosk; a computer lab; and a FedEx drop-off point.

### Library Hours

The Library is open from 7:30 a.m.-5 p.m. Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Fridays; from 7:30 a.m.-7 p.m. Thursdays; and from 8 a.m.-noon Saturdays. The Library is closed Sundays and holidays.

### Base Pool Hours

Independence Pool is open from noon-7 p.m. daily. The daily rate is \$3 for non-Club members and \$2 for members. Summer passes are available based on family size. Call 434-2505 for more information.

### Water Aerobics Instructors Needed

Independence Pool is looking for water aerobics instructors for the 2017 pool season. Lifeguards are also needed. Call 434-2505 for more information.

### The Overrun Open Friday Nights

The Overrun is open from 4:30 – 11 p.m. Fridays. Bar menu includes chicken wing basket, chicken tender basket, club wrap, or buffalo chicken wrap. For more information, call 434-2419.

### Laser Bowling Special

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



### Story Time and Circle Time

The Base Library offers Story Time at 11 a.m. every Friday for all ages up to four years old. For more information, call 434-2934.

### Wood Shop

The wood shop is now open from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Mondays, Tuesdays, Fridays and Saturdays.

### Lawn Mower and Bicycle Repair

Lawn mower repair is now available at Outdoor Recreation. The cost is only \$40 per hour plus parts; pickup and delivery available. Self-help bicycle repair is also available. For more information, call 434-2507.

### Hobby and Craft Instructors Needed

Do you have a hobby or craft project you can share with others? For more information, call 434-7836.

### Referees Needed

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

### Skeet & Trap

Skeet and trap is available at Outdoor Recreation. Call 434-2507 for more information.

### Play Paintball

Book your next paintball event at Outdoor Recreation. The cost is \$15 per person for a party of 10 or more; \$20 per person for party of nine or less. You must purchase paint at Outdoor Recreation for \$45 per case of 2,000. For more information, call 434-2505.

### Need Money for College?

Enter to win scholarship money from Air Force Clubs. Visit MyAirForceLife.com/clubs for more information.

### Take & Bake Pizzas at the Bowling Center

Grab-and-go ready pizzas for you to take home and bake yourself are available at the bowling center. Save \$2 per pizza. Large and medium pizzas only.

### Hobby and Craft Instructors Needed

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

### Interested in Sponsoring with Columbus AFB?

Want your business to reach the 18,000 active-duty military, family members, civilian employees and retirees living and working at Columbus AFB? If you are interested in event sponsorship or donations, please contact our sponsorship coordinator at 434-2337.

### Free Fitness Classes

Free classes are available at the fitness center. Classes range from P90X, Hot Fusion, jiu-jitsu and Floor Core & More. For more information on class schedules, call the Fitness Center at 434-2772.

### 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.

### Instructional Classes at Youth Center

Youth programs is offering piano lessons, guitar lessons, tumbling classes, dance classes, and martial arts instruction. Times and ages vary for all classes. Call 434-2504 or stop by the Youth Center for more information.

### Fitness on Request

CAFB Fitness and Sports offers a truly comprehensive group fitness platform that is available all day and completely customizable to meet your needs with over 30 different classes on the Fitness on Request system. For more information, call 434-2772.

### Space A Lodging

The Magnolia Inn usually has openings for Space A family and single units. Call the lodging desk at 434-2548.

### Ride in Style

If you don’t want to leave your car at the airport over a vacation, we can help you out. Outdoor Recreation offers a shuttle service to the airport of your choice. Call 434-2505 for more information.

### Make Your Shopping Easier

The 14th Force Support Squadron offers gift cards in increments of \$5 to fit any budget. They can be used at most FSS 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, call 434-3426.

Produce Pilots, Advance Airmen, Feed the Fight

# Orientation offers newcomers chance to know base

Staff Sgt. Christopher Gross

14th Flying Training Wing Public Affairs

Moving for most families can be a stressful time; there’s many moving pieces which is why Columbus Air Force Base leadership mandates its’ Airmen to set aside some time and ensure they’re taking care of any unforeseen necessities.

The Wing Newcomers Orientation consist of 28 briefings for newcomers, in which 23 are mandated by Air Force instructions.

Jeff Ellis, a 14th Force Support Squadron Community Readiness Coordinator, said this is a convenient way for Airmen to take care of all those briefings in one stop.

Ellis said the objective is to “catch all the [incoming] personnel, whether military, civilian, [and] whether it’s their first duty station, or student pilots, or 20-year veterans to try and give them information about Columbus [AFB] and the community.”

Ellis said he hopes attendees walk away knowing the opportunities available to them on base and in the community.

## Kratom: A drug with serious health, career consequences

Maj. Brittanie Neaves

14th Medical Group

The U.S. Department of Defense Patient Safety Program issued a safety alert regarding a herbal drug known as Kratom.

Kratom, also known as “Thang,” “Kakuam,” “Thom,” “Ketum,” and “Biak,” is a chemical product of the plant Mitragyna Speciosa, a tropical tree from Malaysia.

The Federal Drug Administration refers to Kratom as a new and unsafe dietary ingredient not approved for use in dietary supplements.

The drug has gained popularity in the U.S. for its psychoactive properties. It is typically brewed as tea, chewed, smoked or ingested as capsules. It is considered a psycho-stimulant and has numerous side effects, including: tremors, sleeplessness, respiratory depression, aggression, hallucinations, vomiting, withdrawal symptoms and death.

Because of its relatively recent rise in popularity, Kratom can still be

purchased from smoke shops or over the internet and is advertised as a legal drug. While true, it has not yet been placed on the Drug Enforcement Administration Controlled Substance List, and is not approved for use by military members. The use of Kratom can be charged as a violation of the Air Force’s rules on the use of mind altering drugs and could possibly result in involuntary administrative discharge.

According to Air Force Instruction 44-121, “Alcohol and Drug Abuse Prevention and Treatment Program,” paragraph 3.6, the Air Force prohibits, “the knowing use of any intoxicating substance, other than the lawful use of alcohol or tobacco products, that is inhaled, injected, consumed or introduced into the body in any manner to alter mood or function.”

Airmen should be aware that its use is prohibited and can be charged as an offense under Article 92 of the Uniform Code of Military Justice.

In short, service members should stay away from Kratom.

*Ellis said the objective is to “catch all the [incoming] personnel, whether military, civilian, [and] whether it’s their first duty station, or student pilots, or 20-year veterans to try and give them information about Columbus [AFB] and the community.”*

From the 28 briefs that take place, attendees learn more about activities offered through the 14th FSS, benefits of being a Columbus Club member, information on local school districts, how to determine which school zones their children will fall into, educational opportunities and much more.

Staff Sgt. Reginald Jackson, 14th Communications Squadron Technician, recently arrived to Columbus AFB

## ROTC senior cadets motivated by base visit

Airman 1st Class Keith Holcomb

14th Flying Training Wing Public Affairs

Students from various Reserve Officers Training Corps programs came together under Col. Cameron W. Torrens, Air Force ROTC Detachment 875 Commander, to tour flying training squadrons on Columbus Air Force Base July 14.

The 11 cadets met with instructor pilots and squadron leaders to discuss what it means to be a pilot and what being a student pilot is like on a day-to-day basis.

They started their visit with a briefing from Col. William Denham, 14th Flying Training Wing Vice Commander. He talked about his real-world experiences and what it means to be a pilot in today’s Air Force.

Richard Johnson, 14th FTW Chief of Public Affairs, then gave the cadets a brief history of the base and provided them with background information on the airframes currently used for pilot training at Columbus AFB. He presented the Wing Mission.

Cadets then went to the flight line where they were shown the T-38C Talon, the T-1A Jayhawk, and T-6A Texan II.

Available for questioning at the displays were instructor pilots and a few recently graduated officers.

“It’s cool to see their excitement and I like being able to explain firsthand what to expect to go through, it gives them a lot of knowledge I wish I’d started pilot training with,” said 1st Lt. Harrison Jerrolds, 50th Flying Training Squadron Instructor Pilot.

After smiles and selfies with the static displays the cadets were brought through the 14th Student Squad-

ron, 37th, 41st, 43rd, 48th and 50th Flying Training Squadrons, and the 49th Fighter Training Squadron.

Flight commanders or instructor pilots from each squadron talked about daily activity and lifestyle of Airmen in the pilot training at Columbus AFB.

Multiple cadets who had not been interested in becoming pilots said they were becoming more and more interested as the tour continued.

From the 50th FTS the cadets moved to the 14th Operations Group building to experience the T-6 simulators; where each cadet preformed three maneuvers in the simulator.

“Thank you for having us visit and see what Columbus AFB is all about,” said Lt. Col. Marc Langohr, Commander of Detachment 775, Air Force Reserve Officer Training Corps at the University of South Carolina.


*“It’s cool to see their excitement and I like being able to explain firsthand what to expect to go through, it gives them a lot of knowledge I wish I’d started pilot training with,” said 1st Lt. Harrison Jerrolds, 50th Flying Training Squadron Instructor Pilot.*



Escape planning

The ability to get out of your house during a fire depends on advance warning from smoke alarms and advance planning.

Fire can spread rapidly through a home, leaving as little as one or two minutes to escape safely once the alarm sounds. A closed door may slow the spread of smoke, heat and fire. Install smoke alarms in every sleeping room and outside each separate sleeping area. Install alarms on every level of the home. Smoke alarms should be interconnected. When one sounds, they all sound. Each household should have a plan. People should walk through their home and inspect all possible exits and escape routes. Households with children should consider drawing a floor plan of their home, marking two ways out of each room, including windows and doors. Also, mark the location of each smoke alarm.



# Tribal Relations Plan signed

**Mike Jago**  
14th Civil Engineer Squadron,  
Cultural Resources

When Col. Douglas Gosney, 14th Flying Training Wing Commander, signed the Columbus Air Force Base Tribal Relations Plan June 7, we became one of the lead installations in executing a new mission: To have direct contact with the tribal people that historically occupied this area of the United States.

The federal government has recognized tribal treaty rights apply to military installations and, just like national parks and other federal property, Columbus AFB is subject to the same treaty requirements.

The treaties that apply to Columbus AFB are actually a series of congressionally ratified documents dating from the 1780s through 1830. Over the years, the Supreme Court has upheld these treaties and recognized the affected indigenous people as nations within a nation. As such, these treaties are still enforceable. The treaties recognize tribal primacy and several agreed upon non-expiring rights. These include the tribe's right to gather, hunt, hold religious practices, visit sacred sites and claim artifacts and funerary objects to include ancestral remains.

while not impacting our military mission. To date, Columbus AFB has had no interactions with any tribe.

Our first order of business was to determine which tribes may be affected by our operations and where they are located. It turns out the tribes are way ahead on this. Inter-tribal agreements have developed a set of overlapping territorial claims that outline the historic (1500 CE –present) range of their tribes.

Columbus AFB is located in well-defined Chickasaw and Choctaw country. Our flying mission covers a much larger area than our physical footprint. As a result, we are responsible for engaging the tribes under the air routes we manage also. This adds the Shawnee Tribe, the Muscogee Nation, the Caddo Nation, the Ki'a'leg'ee Tribal Town, the Alabama Quassarte, the Coushatta Tribe, the Quapaw Tribe of Oklahoma, the Jena Band of Choctaw, the Chickasaw Nation, and the Cherokee Nation.

With the exception of the Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians, all the listed tribes above are located outside of Mississippi. This would appear to be a problem, but the tribes have kept careful records of members and for those interested, there are tribal websites, newspapers, language courses and more. To say the least, the tribes are still here. Tribal gatherings are frequent and public with several advertised in travel brochures and websites around the region, as well as closed private gatherings. As with any group, individual interests and affiliations vary.

Tribal Relations puzzle

ACROSS

1. Columbus AFB air routes cover parts of the \_\_\_\_\_ Nation

6. One of the primary tribes concerned with our location

7. Several different \_\_\_\_\_ originally occupied the Columbus AFB area

8. Signed the tribal relations plan on June 7, 2017

9. Location of most tribes represented in the plan

10. Document ratified by Congress

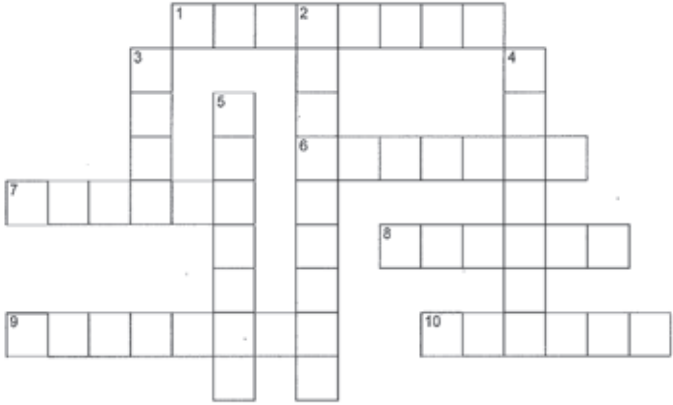
DOWN

2. The other primary tribe concerned with our location

3. Lead installation on tribal relations

4. Columbus AFB air routes cover parts of the \_\_\_\_\_ Tribe lands

5. A specific task charged to a person or group



LOOK FOR THE PUZZLE ANSWERS IN THE NEXT EDITION

So how do we proceed? Initial contacts with Tribal Historic Preservation Offices have yielded a great deal of information. Generally, the two primary tribes concerned with our physical location, the Chickasaw and Choctaw, are very interested in any artifacts or bones uncovered. They have requested to be cued in to our future major earth work construction so they can be aware of a need to respond to a discovery.

A secondary concern is how are we managing “their” land? Technically, we are located on historic tribal lands, so this isn't as odd as it sounds. Our Integrated Natural Resources Plan is of interest as it contains the forestry management, hunting, pesticide management, BASH, and conservation plans. To date no other items of interest have come up, but it is still early days and the tribes are taking a long, slow and purposeful approach. Don't be too surprised to see a tribal delegation in the near future, checking out the old home place.

# ‘All in’ Investing in tomorrow—Air Force Junior ROTC

**Lt. Gen. Steven Kwast**  
Air University Commander and President,  
Air University

MAXWELL AIR FORCE BASE, Ala. — General of the Air Force Henry H. Arnold said, “We must think in terms of tomorrow.” At Air University we do just that; tomorrow is our focus today.

Throughout America's history we have seen numerous studies link the education of our children to national security. One such report came in 2012 from the Council on Foreign Relations. In a PBS news interview that same year, former Secretary of State and National Security Advisor Condoleezza Rice said, “Education could be (our) greatest national security challenge.”

While many experts may debate Ms. Rice's comment and that of these reports, one thing is clear: our educational system produces our next generation of parents, entrepreneurs, politicians, leaders, and warriors.

Education indirectly, if not directly, impacts every aspect of our tomorrow. If you and I value the idea of our children having a better life than we do, then our commitment, time and resources need to be “all in,” supporting the next generation's education.

As president and commander of the Air Force's Air University, I am committed to a strong and vibrant secondary educational system that develops leaders, enriches minds and inspires service. Why is Air University committed to a strong secondary educational system? Gen. Arnold put it best again: “... our Air Force belongs to those who come from ranks of

*Junior ROTC is the Air Force's largest educational program. That's right, our largest educational program is not serving Airmen; it serves high school students in 898 schools across the nation.*

labor, management, the farms, the stores, the professions and colleges and legislative halls ... Air Power will always be the business of every American Citizen.”

Simply put, our students today will become the great Americans who may choose to defend our country as Airmen, Sailors, Soldiers and Marines tomorrow. The vast majority, however, will provide health care, plant fields, transform technology, manage businesses and lead our country.

Junior ROTC is the Air Force's largest educational program. That's right, our largest educational program is not serving Airmen; it serves high school students in 898 schools across the nation. This is not a mistake. It's an investment with dividends payable to the United States of America. Air University pours time and resources into your sons and daughters every day, but we want to do more. Our challenge in accomplishing more is balancing current military needs and resources with increasing support to our high school outreach programs. The best way we can do more is to capitalize

on partnerships. By joining forces with like-minded organizations, our time, resources and efforts go further.


Junior ROTC is already one of the Air Force's leading organizations participating in public-private partnerships. Junior ROTC is currently working with over 650 school districts across the nation. Teaming with local school districts has allowed our joint resources to attract and retain top-quality instructors, provide a world-class curriculum and expose 120,000 high school students to amazing leadership opportunities. In fact, we could not afford to do this on our own. If we want to do more we need a larger team. I have directed my staff to explore more ways to partner with other government agencies, elected officials, corporate America and non-profit organizations dedicated to citizenship, leadership and STEM (science, technology, engineering and math) opportunities for America's youth.

Air Force Junior ROTC operates in 49 states and 15 overseas locations, and it is an incredibly diverse student organization with 58 percent minority and 40 percent female students.


In 2016, 50 percent of our programs were in low-income Title 1 schools. Our students learn and practice aerospace science, leadership and citizenship tenants. Additionally, last year they performed over 1.6 million community service hours in local communities.

Partnering with Junior ROTC provides a unique opportunity to reach students across the country. Junior ROTC brings a lot to the table, and we are looking for opportunities to team with the right people and organizations to make a difference. The bottom line is this, if we want to change tomorrow, it requires we do something today. I'm all in! Are you?


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# BLAZE Hangar Tails: MC-12

## Mission

The MC-12W is a medium- to low-altitude, twin-engine turboprop aircraft. The primary mission is providing intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance, or ISR, support directly to ground forces. The MC-12W is a joint forces air component commander asset in support of the joint force commander.

## Features

The MC-12W is not just an aircraft, but a complete collection, processing, analysis and dissemination system. The aircraft are military versions of the Hawker Beechcraft Super King Air 350 and Super King 350ER. A fully operational system consists of a modified aircraft with sensors, a ground exploitation cell, line-of-sight and satellite communications datalinks, along with a robust voice communications suite.

The aircraft is equipped with an electro-optical infrared sensor and other sensors as the mission requires. The EO/IR sensor also includes a laser illuminator and designator in a single sensor package. The MC-12 system is capable of world-wide operations.



U.S. Air Force photo by Senior Airman Elizabeth Rissmiller

The first MC-12 aircraft in theater flies its first combat sortie June 10, 2009, from Joint Base Balad, Iraq. A new Air Force medium-altitude, manned, special-mission turboprop aircraft, the MC-12, provides real-time intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance capability and supports coalition and joint ground forces.

## Background

The “M” is the Department of Defense designation for a multi-role version of the well-known C-12 series. In April 2008, the Secretary of Defense established a DOD-wide ISR Task Force to identify and recommend solutions for increased ISR in the U.S. Central Command area of responsibility. On July 1, 2008, the Secretary of Defense tasked the Air Force to acquire 37 “C-12” class aircraft to augment unmanned systems. Of note, it was less than eight months from funding approval to delivery in the theater.

The MC-12 capability supports all aspects of the Air Force Irregular Warfare mission (counter insurgency, foreign internal defense and building partnership capacity). Medium- to low-altitude ISR is a core mission for the Air Force.

The first MC-12 arrived at Key Field in Meridian, Mississippi, April 28, 2009. The first MC-12W flew its first combat support sortie on June 12, 2009.

## General Characteristics

**Primary function:** Intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance

**Contractor:** L-3 Communications

**Power plant:** Pratt & Whitney PT6A-60A

**Wingspan:** 57 feet, 11 inches ( 17.65 meters)

**Length:** 46 feet, 8 inches (14.22 meters)

**Height:** 14 feet, 4 inches (4.37 meters)

**Weight:** 12,500 pounds empty (5,669 kilograms)

**Maximum Takeoff Weight:** 350, 15,000 pounds; 350ER, 16,500 pounds

**Fuel capacity:** 350, 3,611 pounds (1,638 kilograms); 350ER, 5,192 pounds (2,355 kilograms)

**Speed:** 312 knots

**Range:** 350, 1,500 nautical miles; 350ER, approximately 2,400 nautical miles

**Ceiling:** 35,000 feet (10,668 meters)

**Armament:** none

**Crew:** Two pilots and two sensor operators

**Initial operating capability:** June 2009

**Unit cost:** \$17 million (aircraft and all communications equipment modifications)

**Inventory:** Active force, 42; Reserve, 0; ANG, 0



U.S. Air Force photo by Senior Airman Tiffany Trojca

The first MC-12 aircraft in theater lands after its first combat sortie June 10, 2009, at Joint Base Balad, Iraq. The Air Force's newest intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance platform, the MC-12, is a medium-altitude, manned, special-mission turbo prop aircraft that supports coalition and joint ground forces.

## Purchasing, installing, managing software licenses

### 14th Communications Squadron

Base Software License Manager

Compliance with software licensing requirements is mandatory by U.S. Code, Defense Department and Air Force instructions.

To ensure that Columbus Air Force Base and all subordinate units comply with these requirements, strict controls have been put in place. Procedures on how to acquire, install, track, and inventory software are just a few examples of these controls.

Should an individual or unit require software for their government system, they would need to contact their cybersecurity liaison to open a Remedy Ticket to obtain authorization for installation. The Base Software License Management, 14th Communications Squadron, will obtain an Authority to Connect and will request a quote from an authorized vendor. The quote will then be provided to the unit CSL to start the ordering process.

A copy of the software order containing the number of licenses should be provided to the BSLM office immediately following purchase. All software should be delivered to:

Base Software License Manager (14CS/SCOO)

Network Control Center

139 F Loop, Bldg 932

Columbus AFB, MS 39710

Upon receipt of the software, the unit CSL will be notified that the software is available through the Media Sign-Out process. This allows for the installations to be performed up to the limit of the licenses purchased for that unit, while maintaining the software in a secure environment when not required by the unit.

Members should use vESD, located on their desktop, to create a ticket for installation of software. Click software and open the Software Wizard. The option for “Install Software” should be available for the requestor to create a ticket and provide the name of the software they are requesting in the “Comments” field. Once a technician receives the ticket, they will work with the BSLM office to ensure there are available licenses and to acquire the media for installation.

After the software has been installed, the software is to be returned to the BSLM office. A record of the number of installations against the number of purchased licenses will be maintained in order to verify compliance with the software licensing agreement.

Maintaining software licenses and inventories are a responsibility that users, BSLMs, and the communications squadron all have a part in. Without each doing their part, non-compliance with laws and applicable guidance will quickly follow. Never load personally owned software onto government systems and never make copies of software without permission of the copyright owner. U.S. Copyright Act, Title 17 of the U.S. Code, covers software from the moment of its creation and prohibits making any copies without permission of the copyright owner.

For more information with respect to software management, contact the BSLM by calling 434-2080.

# AF announces Enlisted Professional Military Education redesign

### Senior Master Sgt. Katherine Grabham

Office of the Chief Master Sgt. of the Air Force

WASHINGTON – Air Force officials announced major changes to the enlisted professional military education program today via an initiative called Enlisted Professional Military Education for the 21st Century, or “EPME 21”.

A major initiative of EPME 21 is that time in service will no longer dictate an Airman’s EPME enrollment -- Airmen will only be required to complete distance learning courses as a prerequisite to their resident attendance. This initiative is now in effect.

Also, the Air Force will transition to 100 percent resident EPME, allowing all active duty, Guard and reserve Airmen an opportunity to attend Airman Leadership School, the NCO and senior NCO academies prior to promotion.

The changes are a result of the 2017 EPME triennial review, said Chief Master Sgt. JoAnne Bass, Chief of Air Force Enlisted Developmental Education at the Pentagon.

“The committee determined changes were needed to the existing EPME structure in order to align EMPE with the chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff’s policy requiring rank-based educational opportunities,” Bass said. “This also enables all Airmen an opportunity to attend resident PME in order to truly leverage the educational experiences gained from instructors and peers.”

One of Chief Master Sgt. of the Air Force Kaleth O. Wright’s three priorities is leadership – developing Airmen who are ready to lead. One of his objectives in this is to cement EPME changes and infuse agility into Air University processes to improve the ability to provide timely, updated content delivery.

“If this sounds familiar, it should. It was the staple of our EPME for almost 43 years before a recent change to a time in service model,” Wright said. “While this model was effective for some, we quickly found it didn’t meet the needs of all our Airmen, causing many NCOs to lose the opportunity to attend in residence at all.”

Rather than requiring Airmen to complete EPME at set times based on how long they’ve been in the Air Force, the new model transitions to a rank-based Continuum of Learning.

Removing the TIS determination “just makes sense,” Wright said. “We must ensure timely, focused and operationally relevant training and educational solutions at all levels. Providing Airmen with the appropriate PME at the right times in their career is a must. If we deliver it too soon, it’s not effective for where they are in their careers. If we deliver it too late, it’s not effective at all.”

Wright notes that the model provides Airmen greater flexibility and time, allowing them to focus their energies on the mission.

“Commanders, superintendents, first sergeants and supervisors remain central to inspiring a culture of innovation, agility and excellence, while promoting a continuum of learning that spans an Airman’s career,” he said.

Airmen will not be notified from AFPC or AU on when

to enroll themselves into distance learning, but must manually enroll themselves.

“This new EPME structure allows Airmen to decide the best timeframe to complete their distance learning,” Bass said. “They will have to complete the distance learning prior to being scheduled for the resident portion, but each Airman now has more flexibility as to when the right time is for them.”

Bass explained that distance learning provides students with basic competency development and the resident courses allow students to apply what they learned.

“It is necessary to complete both the distance learning and the resident courses to achieve development of the required competencies at the appropriate proficiency levels,” she said. “We expect staff and master sergeants to complete their respective distance learning so when they become technical and senior master sergeants, they are immediately eligible for resident attendance.”

Resident EPME is a promotion requirement -- Airman Leadership School, NCO Academy, SNCO Academy and the Chief Leadership Course are required for promotion to E-5, E-7 and E-9, respectively.

Airmen who have previously completed NCO or SNCO distance learning courses under the previous policy and have not attended resident EPME, will still receive EPME credit and will not be required to attend the resident portion. Additionally, those currently enrolled in NCO or SNCO distance learning courses may still complete the course and receive credit upon completion. Or, they may withdraw with no adverse actions and reenroll at a later date, prior to attending resident EPME.

“This change clearly sends a signal that our senior leaders value deliberately developing our enlisted corps,” said Lt. Gen. Gina Grosso, Air Force Deputy Chief of Staff for Manpower, Personnel and Services. “This is a positive move in the right direction, as we continue to develop the force and support our Airmen.”

Additionally, EPME 21 will institute a new requirement called Professional Development Unit that will capture diverse education, training and life experiences. This will allow the AF to capture those experiences. We envision each Airman will complete 24 PDUs per year with one PDU equaling approximately one hour of learning, which equates to ~3 days of development in the span of a year.

Many activities that enlisted Airmen already do will count towards the 24 PDUs. Professional Enhancement Seminars, Senior Enlisted Joint PME, college classes and even earning professional certifications accumulate points. Many of you have already attended programs like Profession of Arms Center of Excellence or other major command courses. Additionally, you actively plan and participate in Air Force, Joint and coalition exercises, gaining experience in warfighting activities ranging from aircraft generation, command and control and force protection. And finally, you deploy and lead both small and large teams across our Combatant Command Areas of Responsibility. These all count.

For more information, visit myPers on the Air Force Portal.



# Commissary undergoes changes, customers can now request items

**Airman 1st Class Keith Holcomb**  
14th Flying Training Wing Public Affairs

The Columbus Air Force Base Commissary recently changed a few things around their store.

As of early July, base members can purchase cheaper products at the base Commissary.

"We have three new brands for the service members," said Bobby Danzie, Commissary Store Director. "Freedom's Choice is the food items brand, Home Base carries the cleaning supplies,

and the Top Care brand is for health and wellness type products."

Greg Runyon, Commissary Assistant Store Director, pointed out some shelves with the new generic brand products on it to explain what the price difference is compared to purchasing things off base.

"The prices are a couple cents cheaper and we are located closest to most of the base population," Runyon said. "Overall we want to make it easier for the base population to use their com-

missary benefits. Not everyone gets something like this."

Another change is a future addition of rotisserie chicken that will be available for purchase next to the new location of the sushi bar, which is now located next to the self-check-out stations.

"We don't know exactly when the rotisserie chicken will be available, but we are pushing to have it here very soon," Danzie said.

Danzie made it clear these changes should provide a better shopping experience and along with

that comes the free Wi-Fi the Commissary has for their customers.

"You have to go into the settings and tap the Defense Commissary Agency Wi-Fi, then you have to click accept on the terms and conditions, then wait 'till the top corner says 'Done,'" Danzie said.

Another common complaint from customers is lack of items, but Danzie said customers have the option to voice their opinions on what they'd like to see added.

"We have a form you can fill out that will allow us to request the items you want," Danzie said. "Space is limited on the shelves; we can't have everything at once."

There are forms and drop off boxes across from the registers and the forms can also be handed in to the cashiers or managers.

After lots of construction, a final waxing and cleaning was done to leave the Commissary ready for consumption.

*"The prices are a couple cents cheaper and we are located closest to most of the base population," Runyon said. "Overall we want to make it easier for the base population to use their commissary benefits. Not everyone gets something like this."*



Cashiers check and bag the items for customers July, 13, 2017, on Columbus Air Force Base, Mississippi. Item request forms and drop off boxes are located across from the registers and forms can also be handed in to the cashiers or managers. Baggers are not DeCA employees, they only work for tips.

U.S. Air Force photos by Airman 1st Class Keith Holcomb



John Day, a customer at the base Commissary, looks at food items July 13, 2017, on Columbus Air Force Base, Mississippi. The item selection is only as large as the Commissary's budget, the more customers they have a year the more space and options they can provide to customers.



Beef is cut and prepared in the Columbus Air Force Base Commissary for Team BLAZE members upon request.



A future addition of rotisserie chicken that will be available for purchase next to the new location of the sushi bar, which is not located next to the self-check-out station.