



Travis, U.S. Air Force reach out in ...

COLOMBIA

PAGES 16-17

2011 mission shows power of refueling

Commentary by
Maj. Geoff Cargill
60TH AIR MOBILITY WING

“Flares, flares, flares. Chutes, chutes. We’ve got two chutes. Initiating (Combat Air Patrol). Launch the rescue aircraft.” This is what we heard over the radio on the evening of March 21, 2011.

On that day, I was a co-pilot on a KC-10 Extenders headed to Morón Air Base, Spain, near Seville to be the spare ground aircraft supporting the summer swap out of fighter aircraft into and out of the Middle East. As tankers ferry fighters into the desert, our KC-10 would be on standby to launch in case one of the tankers had a

maintenance problem.

We landed for what we thought would be a six-week “vacation” in Spain. We made plans to visit Gibraltar, Madrid and the tomb of Christopher Columbus.

The former leader of Libya, Muammar Gaddafi, had other plans for us. Overnight, we turned from a spare ground aircraft to the sole KC-10 tanker supporting a no-fly zone over the Mediterranean Sea.

The opening night of Operation Odyssey Dawn began with an exciting four-ship of tankers refueling stealth, B-2 Spirit bombers. The bombers were egressing Libya after an initial successful air raid. They destroyed many long-range surface-to-air missile sites, but not

Commander’s
Commentary

all of them.

The first few nights of OOD were borderline chaos. There were no aerial refueling tracks and no air tasking orders. This was the “wild west.”

The second night of enforcing this unexpected no-fly zone, we were briefed not to get near the coast of Libya unless cleared by the naval ship executing command and control authority.

After a few aerial refuelings, four F-16 Vipers and two F-15E Strike Eagles arrived unannounced, requesting gas. As the fighter aircraft arrived,

we were directed to setup an orbit roughly 20 miles off the coast of Libya, near the city of Benghazi. Upon arrival, we asked the fighter pilots if the threat of a particular surface to air missile system had been “disabled.” To which they replied, “Nah man, we are going to blow it up right now.”

The flight engineer on our aircraft exclaimed, “Great, so there’s a telephone-pole sized rocket on the rails, potentially ready to launch. Oh, and we have no detection or defensive capabilities, whatsoever. ... I’m in.”

The fighters finished the refueling in about 15 minutes and headed off on their bomb run. We listened intently on the radio as they approached their

target. Moments later, we saw flares, puffs of dark smoke and heard a distress call.

Unaware of what actually happened, it was clear that one of the fighter aircraft had been lost. Our aircraft commander took control of the aircraft, made a rapid turn northbound and pushed the throttles up to full power. Assuming the fighter jet had been shot down by the very surface to air missile system it was attempting to destroy, we had no choice but to get out of the situation as fast as possible.

We made contact with the naval vessel to help pass the coordinates of where the aircraft went down and request rescue. About 15 minutes after

See CARGILL Page 22

Career provides insights to qualities for leaders

Chief Master Sgt. Steven Durrance
141ST MEDICAL GROUP SUPERINTENDENT

F AIRCHILD AIR FORCE BASE, Wash. — Airmen often ask me what qualities make a good leader. There have been thousands of books and articles dating back to antiquity regarding these types of questions.

I can’t add to this impressive list but I can share some insights from my career. There are four characteristics of a person’s character that quickly identify them as a leader. These are in no particular order, but all four have proven to be critical to being a good leader. Quality

Chief’s Commentary

leaders must be an example to others, a problem solver, a servant, and a mentor.

Being an example

Leaders who lead by example share the experience of service with their followers setting the standards for conduct. For those of you who have read “We Were Soldiers Once” and “Young,” Col. Hal Moore was the first person to step off the helicopter during the assault and the last to leave after the battle was

over. Moore told his troops he expected everyone to step forward no matter how dangerous or difficult the situation was. Secondly, Cmd. Sgt. Maj. Plumly personally searched the scattered battle field for the bodies of all of his missing soldiers before leaving for safety. Plumly walked out of the lines and began searching the bushes for soldiers who had been separated in the fighting. The message Plumly was projecting was the care of his troops came before his personal safety.

Problem solver

I always look to see if the leader is

a problem solver. There are three key traits of a problem solver: they are positive, persistent and proportional. Running any military organization is a constant balance of success and friction. Problems are often posed in negative terms with an emphasis on the potential for future difficulties. A quality leader should admit the challenges but emphasize the opportunities. You will never inspire anyone if you look and sound defeated. Remember to develop others so they can work through problems. Interject with your wisdom, experience and

See DURRANCE Page 24

KC-10s display global reach in the Pacific

2nd Lt. Sarah Johnson
60TH AIR MOBILITY WING PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Three KC-10 Extenders flew from Hawaii and Wake Island Airfield to refuel five C-17 Globemaster IIIs carrying over 300 coalition paratroopers across the Pacific Ocean July 13.

Having received the gas they needed, the C-17s continued to Australia to successfully conduct Exercise Ultimate Reach, a strategic air drop mission. The air drop displayed U.S. capabilities throughout the Pacific region, reassured allies and improved combat readiness between joint and coalition personnel.

The aerial refueling also supported Exercise Talisman Saber, a month long training exercise in Australia between U.S., Canadian and Australian forces that began once paratroopers landed Down Under. The training focused on improving interoperability and relations between the three allies.

The KC-10s refueled various aircraft over the Pacific Ocean supporting Talisman Saber. Some of those aircraft include U.S. Navy F/A-18 Super Hornets and U.S. Air Force KC-10s.

“This is the bread and butter of what we do in the KC-10 world,” said Lt. Col. Stew Welch, 9th ARS commander and the Ultimate Reach tanker mission commander. “We’re



U.S. Air Force photo/2nd Lt. Sarah Johnson

A KC-10 Extender from Travis Air Force Base, Calif., refuels a U.S. Navy F/A-18 Super Hornet July 14 over the Pacific Ocean. KC-10s from Travis supported Exercise Talisman Saber 2017 by conducting various air refueling missions over Australia.

practicing mobility, air refueling and interoperability. This is practice for how we go to war.” Though participation in

such a large and complex exercise may seem like a unique occurrence for the aircraft and their aircrews, in actuality, this

is done every day, all over the world. For members of the 6th and the 9th Air Refueling

Squadrons at Travis Air Force Base, California, the global mission of the KC-10 is evident See REACH Page 25

Tailwind

Travis AFB, Calif.
60th Air Mobility Wing

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60th Air Mobility Wing commander

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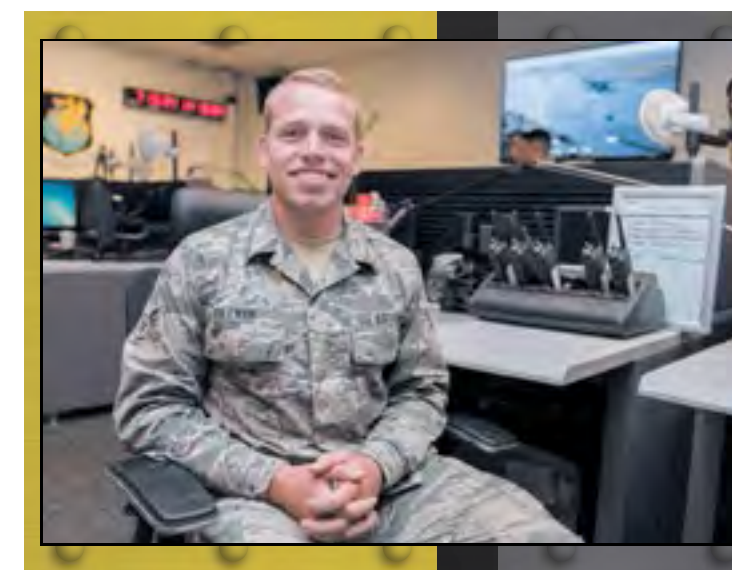
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On the cover

Guests look at aircraft on display, including a plane from Travis Air Force Base, Calif., July 15 at José María Córdova International Airport during Feria Aeronautica Internacional Colombia 2017 in Rionegro, Colombia.

U.S. Air National Guard photo/Senior Airman Megan Floyd



U.S. Air Force photo/Hedra Couch

WARRIOR OF THE WEEK

Name: Airman 1st Class Jordon Tillman.	Hometown: Las Vegas, Nevada.	Family: Spouse, Kierstyn.
Unit: 60th Air Mobility Wing Command Post.	Time in service: One year.	What are your hobbies? Hiking and traveling.
Duty title: Junior emergency action controller.	What are your goals? To obtain my bachelor’s degree in business management by the end of my enlistment.	What is your greatest achievement? Marrying my wife.



U.S. Air Force photo/Tech. Sgt. Liliانا Moreno

Aerial porters from the 321st Contingency Response Squadron position cargo on a C-17 Globemaster III aircraft July 19 during Exercise Saber Guardian '17 at Bezmer Air Base, Bulgaria. Saber Guardian is a U.S. Army Europe-led exercise taking place in Bulgaria, Romania and Hungary. The exercise involves more than 25,000 service members from 22 allied and partner nations.

Allies team up for Saber Guardian

Tech. Sgt. Liliانا Moreno
621ST CONTINGENCY RESPONSE WING

BEZMER AIR BASE, Bulgaria — Approximately 80 Airmen assigned to the 321st Contingency Response Squadron at Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst, New Jersey, deployed July 14-25 to Bezmer Air Base, Bulgaria, in support of exercise Saber Guardian.

Saber Guardian is an annual multinational exercise held in the Black Sea region as part of U.S. European Command Joint Exercise Program. The exercise reinforces deterrence measures agreed to by NATO at the Warsaw Summit in 2016, assures allies and partners of the enduring U.S. commitment to the collective defense

and prosperity of the Black Sea region, and enables the alliance's command and control functions.

Similar operations will take place in the future all around Europe as the U.S. and partnered nations improve their working relationship for the benefit of a stronger Europe.

The squadron deployed two contingency response elements to support the exercise. One team deployed to Bulgaria, while the other supported operations in Romania and Hungary.

The CRE consisted of 15 different job specialties who provided operational level planning expertise and command and control function capabilities to promote regional stability and security,

while strengthening partner capacity and interoperability.

“Every CR Airman is not only trained in their own Air Force specialty, they are also trained cross-functionally and are able to seamlessly integrate into multiple facets of the operation,” said Capt. Andy Schnell, 321st CRS airfield operations officer. “This skillset, and more importantly the CR mindset, allows a small number of CR Airmen to accomplish what would normally take three to four times the number of personnel to accomplish.”

Staff Sgt. Emesh Fernando, 321st CRS air transportation supervisor, discussed some of the challenges his team faced during the exercise.

“Saber Guardian

presented a few challenges due to us having to communicate and coordinate with our host nation counter-parts,” Fernando said. “We had to overcome the language barrier to enhance our mission readiness and efficiency to accomplish the training; patience was the key to ensuring our success.”

The CRE also conducted joint training with Soldiers from the 173rd Airborne Brigade based out of Vicenza, Italy, providing direct air-land support for safe and efficient airfield operations.

“We are providing an increased capability for the bravo echelon of the Joint Forcible Entry by the 173rd Airborne Brigade,” Schnell said. “Our presence enables

See SABER Page 24

Report details cause of mishap

Air Mobility Command Public Affairs

SCOTT AIR FORCE BASE, Ill. – Air Mobility Command officials released the accident investigation board report regarding a Nov. 1, 2016, incident in which an aerial refueling boom detached from a KC-10 Extender aerial refueling tanker during a training flight over Idaho.

The aircraft and crew were operating out of Travis Air Force Base, California, where all are assigned. The crew was on a training mission and planned to refuel F-15 Eagle fighters and a C-17 Globemaster III mobility aircraft when the incident occurred.

In preparation for aerial refueling, the boom operator lowered the boom, the part of a tanker aircraft that connects to the receiving aircraft when delivering fuel. The boom immediately began to move erratically and well outside of its operational and structural limits. The boom operator was not able to control the boom and the aircraft commander declared an in-flight emergency. The aircrew was preparing to land at Mountain Home AFB, Idaho, when the boom fully detached from the fuselage and landed in an empty field below. The aircrew subsequently landed without further incident at Mountain Home. There were no injuries or fatalities resulting from this mishap. The monetary value of loss to the government was \$6.52 million.

The accident investigation board identified two causes and one contributing factor to the incident. The first cause was a sheared Dual Rotary Voltage Transducer rotary crank that

See CAUSE Page 25



U.S. Air Force photo/Staff Sgt. Daniel Phelps

Members of the 349th Aeromedical Staging Squadron put together an En-Route Patient Staging Facility as part of a unit evaluation inspection for Patriot Wyvern July 22 at Travis Air Force Base, Calif. The 349th ASTS members had one hour to set up the ERPSF and communications. They accomplished their task in 35 minutes.

Patriot Wyvern tests skills

Staff Sgt. Daniel Phelps
349TH AIR MOBILITY WING PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Members of the 349th Air Mobility Wing participated in a Patriot Wyvern exercise putting their readiness skills to the test July 22-23 at Travis Air Force Base, California.

This particular exercise tested the operational, medical, maintenance and aerial port areas, and coincided with the wing's unit effectiveness inspection.

“The purpose of this exercise and inspection was to demonstrate our capabilities at our wing's core tasks in order to showcase our competencies to our higher headquarters,” said Maj. Trent Gilmore, 349th Operations Support Squadron plans and inspections officer.

During the event, members from across the 349th AMW worked through scenarios to strengthen their primary job skills and identify areas for improvement. The 349th Operations Group performed several types of flying operations, to include low-level

flying, terrain-masking, touch and goes, assault landings and air refueling. The 349th Maintenance Group worked to launch and recover all of the

KC-10 Extender, C-17 Globemaster III and C-5M Super Galaxy aircraft flying as part of the exercise. Additionally, See SKILLS Page 21

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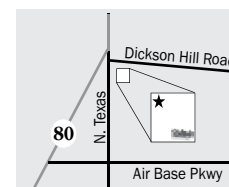
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Annual mental health assessment set to begin

Peter Holstein
AIR FORCE SURGEON GENERAL
PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICE

Starting July 31, Airmen undergoing their annual Periodic Health Assessment may notice something new. A Mental Health Assessment will now be part of every annual PHA, to help ensure Airmen suffering from undiagnosed mental health issues are referred to the necessary care.

Mental health issues are a serious problem for U.S. armed forces and for the Air Force. These illnesses are often not visible to others, making them difficult to diagnose, leading to unnecessary

suffering. By implementing yearly screenings, more Airmen in the early stages of mental illness will be identified and referred for treatment, helping them heal and improve overall medical readiness.

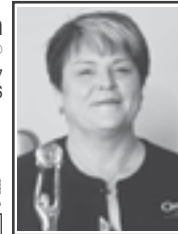
“This assessment gives Airmen an annual opportunity to review their mental health with a medical provider and discuss any concerns they may have,” said Col. Steven Pflanz, Air Force Director of Psychological Health. “Making the process routine for everyone reduces stigma and makes it easier for Airmen suffering from

See ASSESSMENT Page 22

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* Honda offer applies to New previously unregistered Honda's not Used Cars.

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Leadership looks closer



U.S. Air Force photo/Heide Couch

Chief Master Sgt. Erika Scofield, right, 60th Mission Support Group superintendent, had the opportunity to shadow Airman 1st Class Dylan Pittsnogle, kneeling, 60th Communications Squadron, July 21 at Travis Air Force Base, Calif., as part of the Works With Airmen program. Scofield and Pittsnogle teamed up with Airman 1st Class Matthew Meer, center, 60th CS, to install and configure a layer two device switch. The Works With Airmen program is designed to allow wing leadership the opportunity to shadow junior enlisted Airmen and learn about an Airman's duties and responsibilities and how they contribute to the wing's overall mission.

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Travis planes refuel on training mission

A C-17 Globemaster III from the 349th Air Mobility Wing's 301st Airlift Squadron at Travis Air Force Base, Calif., is refueled July 20 by a KC-10 Extender. The C-17 was conducting a local training mission in Northern California.

U.S. Air Force photo/Louis Briscose



Student loan forgiveness takes effect in October

Richard Salomon

AIR FORCE PERSONNEL CENTER PUBLIC AFFAIRS

JOINT BASE SAN ANTONIO-RANDOLPH, Texas — The first forgiveness of student loan balances under the Public Service Loan Forgiveness Program goes into effect for government employees this October.

The program offers forgiveness for remaining balances due on William D. Ford federal direct loans after employees have made at least 120 loan payments after Oct. 1, 2007, while employed full-time by certain public service employers.

Loan forgiveness is available only for direct loans; however, loans made under other federal student loan programs may become eligible for the program if they are consolidated into a direct consolidation loan.

Visit Federal Student Aid for eligibility requirements and additional information.

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 at <http://www.afpc.af.mil/myPers>.

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U.S. Air Force photo/Tech. Sgt. Robert Barnett

Rep. John Garamendi, D-Walnut Grove, and Gen. Carlton Everhart II, Air Mobility Command commander, discuss rapid global mobility during a Mobility Air Forces Caucus breakfast July 12 in Washington, D.C.

AMC commander meets with Congress

Capt. Kimberly Erskine
AIR MOBILITY COMMAND PUBLIC AFFAIRS

congressional leaders July 12 at the Congressional Mobility Air Forces Caucus Breakfast in Washington, D.C.

SCOTT AIR FORCE BASE, Ill. — The Air Mobility Command commander, Gen. Carlton D. Everhart II, met with He traveled there to speak with lawmakers regarding **See CONGRESS Page 23**

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Iraqi forces control Mosul, fight for Raqqa



Marine Corps photo/Sgt. Matthew Callahan

A U.S. Marine fires an M777-A2 Howitzer June 1 in Syria. The Marines had been conducting 24-hour all-weather fire support for the coalition's local partners, the Syrian Democratic Forces, as part of Combined Joint Task Force Operation Inherent Resolve.

Cheryl Pellerin
DEFENSE MEDIA ACTIVITY

WASHINGTON, D.C. — Iraqi forces control all parts of Mosul, Iraq, while tough fighting against the Islamic State of Iraq and Syria continues in Raqqa, Syria, Pentagon spokesman Navy Capt. Jeff Davis told reporters July 24 in Washington, D.C.

Since the height of ISIS's power in 2014, the coalition has retaken more than 70 percent of formerly ISIS-controlled territory in Iraq and 50 percent in Syria, he said, and the coalition fighting ISIS continues to grow.

"There are now 73 partners in that coalition, which is 69 countries plus the European Union, NATO, the Arab League and Interpol," the International Police Organization, he said, noting that coalition partners in Iraq and Syria have retaken more than 44,400 square miles of territory and freed 5 million people from ISIS control.

Iraq operations

In an update of operations beginning with Iraq, Davis said that Iraqi forces continue to conduct detailed clearance operations of rebel caves and tunnel systems in Mosul's old city, looking for any remaining ISIS fighters and seeking to identify explosive devices that could threaten friendly forces or civilians.

The old city is the focus of cleanup operations, he said, and the Iraqi army, the Emergency Response Division forces, the Counter Terrorism Service and federal police are holding sectors in Mosul until the holding force takes over security.

"There's been only one coalition strike in Mosul in the last week and a single-digit number of direct-fire engagements in Mosul in the last week. These are indicators of the improved security and stability situation there," Davis said.

Before the single strike over the past week, the last

time the coalition made no strikes on Mosul was Sept. 15, he added.

The coalition has conducted multiple strikes in Tal Afar this week against supply caches, vehicle-borne bomb factories and command-and-control locations, Davis said.

"(Iraq's) forces will decide when it's best to begin the offensive operations to defeat ISIS in Tal Afar, and when (they are) ready, the coalition will be there to support," he said.

Syria operations

Davis said that July 24 marked the 50th day of operations to defeat ISIS in Raqqa and about 40 percent of the city is now under control of the Syrian Democratic Forces, and yesterday the SDF liberated about 2 square miles of terrain in and around Raqqa as they fought off stiff resistance along three axes.

On the city's western axis, he added, the SDF gained ground along a corridor south of the main supply route despite heavy ISIS resistance with small arms, machine-gun fire and homemade bombs.

"On the eastern axis, the SDF made incremental gains and repelled ISIS counterattacks, and incorporated indirect fires and vehicle-borne [improvised explosive devices], Davis said. "On the southern axis south of the Euphrates River the SDF cleared about 1.5 square miles, despite ISIS counterattacks from area villages."

He also said the east-west deconfliction line south of the Euphrates is holding, referring to the boundary established through the Russian channel to deconflict the advance of regime forces.

"Regime forces further to the south are moving ... in the direction of Dar Azar," Davis said, "and this deconfliction mechanism has worked effectively to ensure that there are no skirmishes between SDF fighters and regime fighters as the regime moves further downriver."



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Langley-Eustis podcast puts new spin on resilience

Jennifer Spradlin
AIR COMBAT COMMAND PUBLIC AFFAIRS

JOINT BASE LANGLEY-EUSTIS, Va. — How do you talk to Airmen about resilience — especially when a unit is geographically dispersed?

When two colleagues and friends at the 363rd Intelligence, Surveillance, and Reconnaissance Wing set out to answer that question, their priorities were to make the information approachable, accessible and relevant to their diverse community. One way they discovered, was a podcast.

Capt. Jerry Walker, the 363rd ISRW psychologist and acting wing surgeon general, and Chaplain (Maj.) Jim Bridgeham, the 363rd ISRW chaplain, have just recorded the 12th episode of their podcast, "The Pillars." The name is derived from the Comprehensive Airman Fitness program. CAF emphasizes the role of physical, spiritual, mental and social pillars (or domains) in creating balanced lives for Airmen.

"This is a podcast we put together to help (Airmen) with any issues or challenges they may face in their personal or professional lives ... to help them become a better leader,

wingman and warrior," explained Walker. "These are general resilience skills (in the podcast), and in that regard, everyone can benefit from them."

The two have worked hard to craft a show that is personable, relatable across rank and age and full of tips that Airmen can immediately apply in their lives. Sometimes they are joined by a guest. Most notably, Maj. Ken Corigliano or Air Force Ken — to those who may have watched him compete on Ultimate Beastmaster, a competitive obstacle course show. Their guests reflect on their own resilience stories and put a personal face to the resilience skills taught on the show.

Ken was attracted to the Air Force at a time of instability in his personal life. His

sister passed away and his parents divorced, so he enlisted in 1997 and activated in 1999. He was an MC-130E Combat Talon crew chief and earned a commission slot and four-year scholarship to Saint Leo University in Florida. He commissioned in 2006; however, that process was not without challenges.

"I failed my first PT test in ROTC, and it was embarrassing. I had a medal of heroism, and they put me in for a scholarship ... and I am not prepared to run two miles. It was a very emotional situation for me ... I said, never, ever will this happen again," he said. "I trained hard, and I did learn something — you have to jump into the deep end if you want to learn to

See **PODCAST** Page 22



U.S. Air Force photo/Jennifer Spradlin

Chaplain (Maj.) Jim Bridgeham, 363rd Intelligence, Surveillance and Reconnaissance Wing chaplain, left, and Capt. Jerry Walker, 363rd ISRW psychologist and acting surgeon general, record the 12th episode of their resilience podcast, "The Pillars," July 6 at Joint Base Langley-Eustis, Va. The 363rd ISRW Wing is spread across several bases and mission locations and the podcast allows more Airmen to be included in training.

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CSAF describes future of conflict

Adversaries to focus less on borders, he says

Tech. Sgt. Robert Barnett
SECRETARY OF THE AIR FORCE
PUBLIC AFFAIRS

WASHINGTON — Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. David L. Goldfein addressed the future of the Total Force, operations in space and the importance of a multi-domain, networked approach to warfare during an Air Force Association breakfast July 26 at the Mitchell Institute in Washington, D.C.

The CSAF outlined five key attributes of future conflict that must be prepared for: trans-regional, multi-domain, multi-component, multi-national/coalition and fast.

Goldfein compared the future of conflict and multi-domain command and control to a Rubik's cube, saying



U.S. Air Force photo/Senior Airman Rusty Frank

Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. David L. Goldfein speaks during an Air Force Association breakfast July 26 at the Mitchell Institute in Washington, D.C.

Air Force blue is just one of many colors on it, with every capability working together in the multi-domain environment.

"First, future conflict will be trans-regional," he said. "Our adversaries are not paying attention to our combatant commander maps."

Conflicts are, and will be, multi-domain, he said, including air, land, sea, space, cyberspace and the undersea

See CSAF Page 30

Officers picked for DARPA program

Kat Bailey

AIR FORCE PERSONNEL CENTER
PUBLIC AFFAIRS

JOINT BASE SAN ANTONIO-RANDOLPH, Texas — The Air Force has selected eight active-duty officers for participation in the Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency Service Chiefs' Fellows Program.

This three-month fellowship provides participants with insight into cutting-edge technology while potentially facilitating the development of future DARPA technologies. DARPA's mission as the central research and development agency for the Defense Department is to make pivotal investments in breakthrough technologies for national security and to prevent strategic surprise.

The DARPA SCFP was established to expose military officers and government civilians to a unique organization whose mission is to rapidly develop imaginative, innovative and often high-risk research ideas.

"The Service Chiefs' Fellows Program assists DARPA in understanding service needs based on input from the participants into DARPA's technology development efforts," said Tech. Sgt. Rebecca Fobbs, the NCO in charge of officer developmental education.

Fellows from each branch of service have the opportunity to dive deeply into specific technology development in areas of interest to them and to their respective service, as well as a chance to understand the breadth of DARPA research.

"This introduction to the DARPA innovation process allows fellows to gain valuable research experience and return to the field with an appreciation for the agency's role of supporting DOD missions," Fobbs said.

See DARPA Page 30

Air Force opens doors to boosting innovation

Secretary of the Air Force Public Affairs

WASHINGTON — Air Force Secretary Heather Wilson announced the launch of AFwerX July 21 during her visit to Nellis Air Force Base, Nevada.

Based on a model used by Special Operations Command, AFwerX opens Air Force doors to highly innovative problem solvers with small amounts of money in ways that strip out bureaucracy.

The first AFwerX location will be near the University of Nevada, Las Vegas, so students and faculty, small businesses and entrepreneurs can connect easily to the Air Force. The storefront

is slated to open by early 2018 with "open to the public" hours for individuals and groups to present ideas.

"We're changing the way we do business with innovators," Wilson said. "Bringing an AFwerX storefront to Vegas allows us to take advantage of Nevada's emerging idea marketplace."

This site is intended to engage innovators and entrepreneurs to help increase lethality at a lower cost, Wilson said.

"We have to move faster and be smarter," she said. "We know there are people out there with answers to problems, with ideas and innovations, and we are going to look at what they have and help them help us."

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Wilson takes closer look at RPAs

Senior Airman Christian Clausen

432ND WING/432ND AIR EXPEDITIONARY
WING PUBLIC AFFAIRS



U.S. Air Force photo/Senior Airman Christian Clausen

CREECH AIR FORCE BASE, Nev. — Secretary of the Air Force Heather Wilson visited Creech Air Force Base July 19 to get a closer look at the MQ-1 Predator and MQ-9 Reaper mission.

During her visit, Wilson toured the base and gained insight into the persistent attack and reconnaissance mission the Airmen of the 432nd Wing complete 24-7-365.

See WILSON Page 30

Secretary of the Air Force Heather Wilson is briefed on the Multi-Spectral Targeting system by Staff Sgt. Evan, 432nd Aircraft Maintenance Squadron avionics craftsman July 19 at Creech Air Force Base, Nev. Evan's last name is withheld for security purposes.

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Airman at Fort Meade tackles Air Force rugby team

Staff Sgt. A.J. Hyatt

70TH INTELLIGENCE SURVEILLANCE
RECONNAISSANCE WING PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Editor's note: Last names are withheld for security purposes.

◆◆◆
FORT GEORGE G. MEADE, Md. — Listed at 6 feet 4 inches tall and weighing approximately 220 pounds, this fusion analyst and player on the Air Force Rugby Team is not an Airman you want running at you full speed.

Airman 1st Class Austin, of the 29th Intelligence

Squadron, has been playing with the Air Force Rugby Team since March 2017, and recently returned from playing at the Bloodfest Tournament in Austin, Texas.

Austin, who enlisted in May 2016 out of Berwick, Pennsylvania, became involved in rugby almost as soon as he entered the Air Force.

“When I was at Goodfellow Air Force Base (Texas, for technical training), Tony Kisiday, one of the guys who played on the Air Force Rugby Team, started a base team there and got me playing,” said

Austin. “He said, ‘You show promise. You should definitely put in an application because we have a tournament coming up in March.’”

Austin submitted an application and was approved by the time he arrived to his first duty station at Fort Meade, Maryland.

“It really didn’t sink in until my first Air Force Rugby tournament in Las Vegas,” said the 25-year old. “I absolutely fell in love with the sport, the camaraderie and sense of team that I was missing.”

Coming in as a brand new player, Austin remembered sweating and thinking everyone else on the team was going to be thinking, “Who the heck is this guy, get him out of here, and cut this guy from the team immediately.” But that’s not what happened, he said.

“One player approached me after practice and said, ‘We are going to talk and get you ready to go,’” he said. “They 100 percent embraced me into the family.”

With only nine months under his belt, Austin currently plays with the Open, or Developmental, Team in Air Force Rugby, but the competition is still serious.

“My very first game was against the German national team in the Las Vegas tournament,” he said. “And all I (had) done before that was just practice.”

In his most recent tournament, the Bloodfest



Courtesy photo

Airman 1st Class Austin, 29th Intelligence Squadron fusion analyst and Air Force rugby player, stiff arms a West Indies National Team defender during the Las Vegas Invitational Tournament in March 2017. Austin's last name is withheld for security purposes.

tournament, the Open Team lost their first three games, but were able to advance to the knockout rounds due to the number of points they scored in those games, Austin said. The team won the first game of the knockout round, but ended up losing their final game of the day.

Austin was proud of how the team did, playing five games that day in the brutal Texas weather.

“Our first knockout round game, we won 35-17 and were able to physically dominate our opponent,” Austin said. “We lost the final game to Fort Worth 27-19. It was a long day of rugby, and I think the heat was starting to get to us.”

Being part of a team has

always been a priority for Austin. He played football and baseball his entire life, to include playing Division III football, he said.

Prior to joining the Air Force, he worked as a counselor and juvenile corrections officer, but that profession was not fulfilling his team environment needs. The Air Force has given Austin the team environment he was searching for, in rugby and in his job.

“I joined the Air Force for that team environment,” he said. “I wanted to find that brotherhood and team bond again. The Air Force has definitely helped me get back into that team mindset, looking out for one another, and primed me mentally,” said Austin.

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Travis KC-10 shows off capabilities at Colombian air show

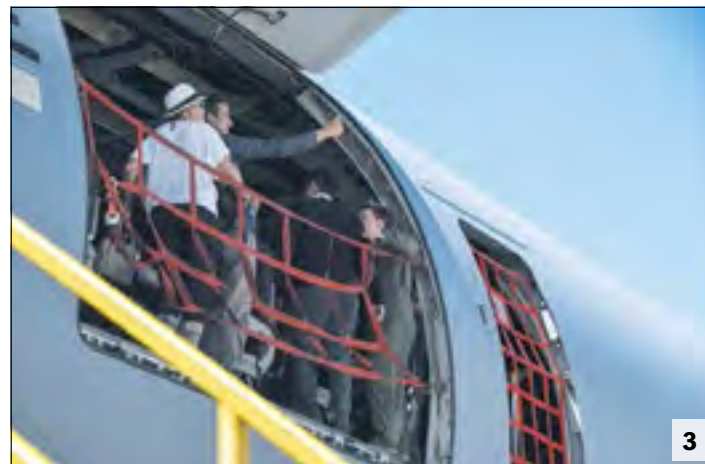
1) Colombian air force personnel perform a hoisting demonstration at José María Córdova International Airport during Feria Aeronautica Internacional-Colombia 2017 on July 15 in Rionegro, Colombia. Travis Air Force Base, Calif., participated in the four-day air show. 2) A KC-10 Extender from Travis refuels an F-16 Fighting Falcon during Feria Aeronautica Internacional. 3) Guests tour a KC-10 from Travis July 14 during the air show. United States military participation in the air show provides an opportunity to strengthen military-to-military relationships with regional partners and provides the opportunity to meet with our Colombian air force counterparts and facilitate interoperability, which can be exercised in future cooperation events such as exercises and training. 4) Guests watch the aerial demonstrations at José María Córdova International Airport.



U.S. Air National Guard photo by Senior Airman Megan Floyd



Courtesy photo



Courtesy photo



U.S. Air National Guard photo by Senior Airman Megan Floyd

Staff Sgt. Nicole Leidholm

60TH AIR MOBILITY WING PUBLIC AFFAIRS

A KC-10 Extender with crews from the 6th and 79th Air Refueling Squadrons spent a week in Rionegro, Colombia, supporting the Colombian air force's Feria Aeronautica Internacional from July 13-16.

This was the first time a KC-10 Extender has stayed in Colombia for an airshow.

"Our mission was two-fold," said Senior Master Sgt. Russell Downie, 79th ARS boom operator. "Our first job was to refuel F-16 (Fighting Falcons) from South Carolina and make sure they made it to the airshow and the second was to sit as a static there."

The week started with the KC-10 bringing two F-16s from the 157th Fighter Squadron, South Carolina Air National Guard, to meet up with the Colombian air force's Kfirs, based in Palenquero, for mid-air training. The series of drills and intercepts, which lasted for an hour and a half, aimed at assisting the Colombians in preparing for Red Flag in March 2018.

"It was an excellent time," said Downie. "It was a great opportunity, and we were very well received. They were very interested in our capabilities and our air superiority."

The U.S. Air Force's participation in the air show provided an opportunity to strengthen the military-to-military relationships with regional partners and provided the opportunity to meet with Colombian air force counterparts.

"We were able to talk about the aircraft, what we do, what air refueling is and what it enables the U.S. Air Force to do," said Capt. David Reed, 6th ARS KC-10 pilot and aircraft commander for the mission. "Being at the airshow and showing off our capabilities to the Colombian government shows our commitment to them, their country and helps build our relationship with them."

Other aircraft participating in the four-day air show included a KC-135 Stratotanker from Tinker Air Force Base, Oklahoma, and Air Combat Command's Viper East Demo Team from Shaw Air Force Base, S.C. United States Strategic Command also coordinated a B-52 Stratofortress flyover during the air show's kick-off ceremony.

The week also included a key leader engagement between the state's Adjutant General, U.S. Army Maj. Gen. Robert Livingston, and leaders from the South Carolina Air National Guard, all meeting with Colombian air force leadership, U.S. Air Force's Southern Commander, Lt. Gen. Mark Kelly and the U.S. Ambassador to Colombia, Kevin Whitaker. The series of meetings throughout the week further strengthened the partnership.

"It was important because we helped solidify the relationship we have with the Colombians," said Downie.



Courtesy photo



U.S. Air National Guard photo/Senior Airman Megan Floyd



Courtesy photo

5) Guests tour various aircraft during Feria Aeronautica Internacional-Colombia 2017 July 14 in Rionegro, Colombia. 6) Guests watch the aerial demonstrations. The show included a static display of a KC-10 Extender from Travis Air Force Base, Calif. 7) Guests tour various aircraft during the Colombian air show.

Swap Ads

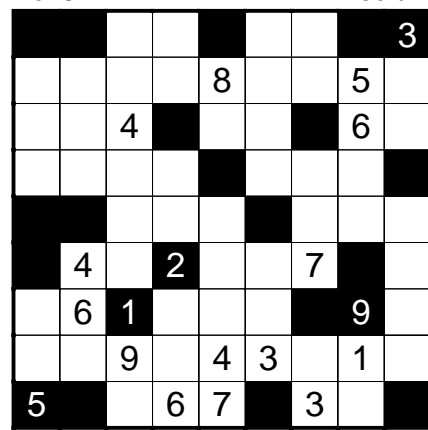
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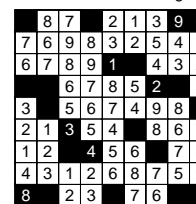
Puzzles

STR8TS

No. 344 Medium



Previous solution - Tough

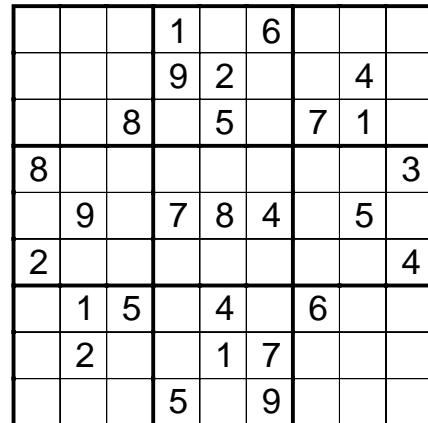


How to beat **Str8ts** – Like Sudoku, no single number can repeat in any row or column. But... rows and columns are divided by black squares into **compartments**. These need to be filled in with numbers that complete a "straight". A **straight** is a set of numbers with no gaps that can be in any order, eg [4,2,3,5]. Clues in black cells remove that number as an option in that row and column, and are not part of any straight. Glance at the solution to see how "straights" are formed.

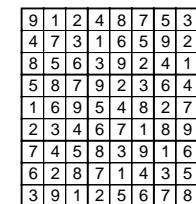
You can find more help, tips and hints at www.str8ts.com

SUDOKU

No. 344 Medium



Previous solution - Easy



To complete Sudoku, fill the board by entering numbers 1 to 9 such that each row, column and 3x3 box contains every number uniquely.

For many strategies, hints and tips, visit www.sudokuwiki.org

If you like Str8ts, Sudoku and other puzzles, check out our books, iPhone/iPad Apps and much more on our store at www.str8ts.com

The solutions will be published here in the next issue.

Retiree Corner

Registration open for U.S. Air Force Marathon

WRIGHT-PATTERSON AIR FORCE BASE, Ohio – Registration for the 21st annual U.S. Air Force Marathon is open and runners, walkers and wheeled participants are encouraged to sign up quickly for the fun and exciting family friendly event scheduled Sept. 15-16. This year's marathon will

honor the 70th anniversary of the United States Air Force and will include a joint flyover by a P-51 Mustang – which saw extensive action in WWII – and an F-22 Raptor – a fifth generation fighter – representing the past and future of the Air Force.

For additional information and to register for the marathon visit <http://www.usafmarathon.com/>

— Air Force News Service

Events and info

Commander's Call. Col. John Klein, 60th Air Mobility Wing commander, will host a series of commanders' calls Aug. 8 at 6 a.m., 10 a.m. and 1 p.m. and Aug. 9 at 2 p.m. at the Travis Base Theater. All members of the 60th AMW are expected to attend one of these events.

Chapel programs

Recurring events

Catholic Twin Peaks Chapel

- Roman Catholic Mass: 9 a.m. and noon Sunday.
- Children's Church: 10:15 a.m. Sunday.
- Sacrament of Reconciliation/Confession: 4:30 to 5:30 p.m. Wednesday or upon appointment.

• Infant Baptism Prep Class: Two classes. Registration Required. 6 to 7 p.m., offered quarterly.

- Youth Choir: 1 p.m. Sunday.
- Children's Choir: 2 p.m. Sunday.
- Adult Choir: 4 p.m. Sunday.
- Women's Bible Study: 10 a.m. (at First Street Chapel).

• Catholic Women of the Chapel: 6 p.m. first Monday of every month, Annex.

• Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults: 6 to 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, Annex.

• RE Classes: 10:15 to 11:30 a.m. Sunday, RE Wing.

First Street Chapel

• Mom's Group: 9 to 11:30 a.m. Thursday and Friday.

DGMC Medical Center Chapel

• Roman Catholic Mass: Noon to 12:35 p.m. Monday through Thursday, except for federal holidays.

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints

• Sacrament Services: 9 and 11 a.m. Sunday at Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints Fairfield Stake Center, 2700 Camrose Ave., Fairfield.

DGMC Medical Center Chapel

• Latter-day Saints Service: 4 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. Sunday at DGMC Medical Center Chapel.

• For all other enquires, call LDS Military relations representatives at 707-535-6979

Protestant

First Street Chapel

- Protestant Community Service: 9:30 to 10:30 a.m. Sunday.
- Gospel Worship Service: 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Sunday.
- Children's Ministry is provided for 6-month-olds through fifth grade.

• Protestant Men of the Chapel: 8 to 9 a.m., first Saturday of every month.

Twin Peaks Chapel

• Protestant Women of the Chapel: 9:30 to 11 a.m. Tuesday.

DGMC Medical Center Chapel

• Protestant Traditional Service: 10 a.m. to 11 a.m. Sunday.

Airmen's Ministry Center

• The Peak is open from 6 to 9 p.m. Monday

In the next week...

fri

Career and Education Fair. 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. July 28 at the Delta Breeze Club. Pre-register at <http://bit.ly/2uS0f3b>.

The class is \$10 and participants 5 years of age and older are welcome. To register, call 707-424-2929.

Stand Up Paddle Boarding. July 29 at Outdoor Recreation. 707-424-0969.

sun

Whitewater rafting. Those eligible will only pay \$10, all others are welcome to register at the regular price of \$68. The trip includes gear, guides and transportation to the American River. The next Single Airmen-eligible trips are July 30 and Aug. 13. For Single Airmen eligibility and information, call 707-424-0969.

Wine tour. July 30. Outdoor Recreation. 707-424-0969.

mon

Pre-K Storytime. July 31. Mitchell Memorial Library. 707-424-3279

tue

Baby Bounce. Aug. 1. Mitchell Memorial Library. 707-424-3279.

wed

Derby Car Make & Race at Arts & Crafts. On July 29, build your own car and on Aug. 5 you can see your race car in action.

through Friday at Bldg 1348. Home-cooked meal at 6 p.m. Tuesday's followed at 7 p.m. by Bible study.

◆◆◆
For more information about chapel programs, call Twin Peaks Chapel at 707-424-3217.

60th FSS

Events and information

Rock the Block Festival. 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Aug. 4 in the Delta Breeze parking lot. Live bands, beer garden, food trucks, kids fun zone. Bring cash. travisfss.com/rocktheblock.

Outdoor Recreation hours. Due to system maintenance, Outdoor Recreation will have limited operational hours Aug. 21-26 and will be closed Aug. 27-28. For more information, call 707-424-0969.

Free fuel for a year. On Aug. 4, club members can head to the Club Member VIP Lounge during the Rock the Block Festival. New

registration for volunteer dependents. To volunteer, call 707-424-5392.

Back to School Pool Party. On Aug. 19, at the Travis Aquatic Center. The fun starts at noon and ends at 5 p.m. Free. To register, call Outdoor Recreation at 707-424-0969.

Work-from-Home Opportunity. Family Child Care offers free Child Care Provider Classes all year long. Currently, infant care is in high demand. If you're looking to work from home, make your own schedule and begin a lucrative career that enriches the life of Travis youth, head to FCC today! For more information, call 707-424-4596.

Bishop Climb Overnight. Aug. 4-6. Outdoor Recreation. 707-424-0969.

◆◆◆
For more information on FSS, visit <http://www.travisfss.com>.

Recurring

Air Force Office of Special Investigations

To report a crime, get a foreign travel brief or request information on joining AFOSI, report to Bldg. 380B, second floor. Send correspondence to AFOSI Detachment 303, 510 Airlift CR, Travis AFB, 94535. For more information, call 707-424-3115 or DSN: 837-3115.

Air Force Sergeants Association

"Walter E. Scott" Chapter 1320. General membership meetings are at 3 p.m. on the second Friday of every month at Wingman's in the Delta Breeze Club. For more information, contact Senior Master Sgt. Angell Nichols or Tech. Sgt. Rebecca Linden de Romero.

Airmen's Attic. The Airmen's Attic is open from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Tuesday and Thursday and 4 to 6 p.m. Wednesday, 560 Hickam Ave. For more information, call 707-424-8740 or visit the Facebook page "The Attic at Travis AFB."

Alzheimer's Caregiver Support Group.

Meetings take place from 1 to 2:30 p.m. the third Thursday of the month in the diabetic education classroom on the first floor in Internal Medicine at David Grant USAF Medical Center. For more information, call 707-423-7227.

Base emergency numbers.

Mobile phone users must dial 707-424-4911 if they have an emergency on base. Those using government or home phones can call 911. For more information, call the Travis Air Force Base Fire Prevention Office at 707-424-3683.



Here are the showtimes for this weekend's movies at the Base Theater:

Today

- 6:30 p.m. "Megan Leavey" (PG-13)
- 9 p.m. "All Eyez on Me" (R)

Saturday

- 6:30 p.m. "The Book of Henry" (PG-13)
- 9 p.m. "Rough Night" (R)

Sunday

- 2 p.m. "Cars 3" (PG-13)

Crisis text line. Free, confidential, 24/7 counseling for teens and young adults. Text 741-741 anywhere in the United States and a live, trained crisis counselor responds quickly.

Employee-Vehicle Certification and Reporting System. Civilian and military personnel must maintain emissions information with the Web-based ECARS system. For more information, call Xuyen Lieu at 707-424-5103.

Exceptional Family Member Program Sensory Play Group. This group meets from 2 to 4 p.m. the second and fourth Wednesdays at the Balfour Beatty Community Center. For more information, call 707-424-4342 or visit the Facebook page "EFMP Travis AFB."

Fairfield/Vacaville Train Station Project. Located at Peabody Road and Vanden Road in Fairfield with a six-lane overpass. Construction is scheduled for completion in October. For more information, visit <http://bit.ly/1yNIBwV>.

Family Advocacy Parent/Child playgroups.

Toddlers to the Max Playgroup for children ages 1 to 3 meets from 9:30 to 11 a.m. Wednesdays at the First Street Chapel Annex. The Rattles to Raspberries Playgroup for infants 8 weeks to 1 year meets 9:30 to 11 a.m. Thursdays at the First Street Chapel Annex. For more information, call 707-423-5168.

Family and Friends Combat Stress

Peer Support Group. Meets from noon to 1 p.m. the first Tuesday of every month at the Balfour Beatty Community Center and from 1-2 p.m. the third Thursday of each month at The Peak. For more information, contact Amber Quirate and Jessica Soto at 501-231-7756 or email travspocombatptsd@gmail.com.

Government no-fee passports.

All submissions of applications for government no-fee passports must now include: 1) A photocopy of Military Identification Card front and back; 2) Passport photo taken in the past six months; 3) Supporting document(s), proof of U.S. citizenship certified copy with state or county seal, if it involved a name change submit a court order or marriage certificate. Passport application cannot be handwritten and printed back to back and must be completed online with 2D barcode at website <https://ppform.state.gov> and/or <https://travel.state.gov>. For more information, call 707-424-5324.

Hometown News Releases. To submit a Hometown News Release, visit the new paperless website at <https://jhns.release.dma.mil/public> and fill out the information.

LGBT Alliance. General membership

meetings take place at 6 p.m. the first Wednesday of every month at the Airman and Family Readiness Center. For more information, email lgbtalliance707@gmail.com or call 707-424-2486.

Mare Island Museum. Now a Blue Star Museum, which means active-duty military, reservists and their dependents are eligible for free admission from Memorial Day to Labor Day. 1100 Railroad Ave. on Mare Island in Vallejo. 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Monday through Friday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday. For more information, call 707-557-4646.

M-50 Gas Mask Fit Testing. Takes place from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. every Wednesday at Bldg. 791. All deployers are fit as necessary. For more information, call 707-424-2689.

Mitchell Memorial Library. Open 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. Monday through Thursday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Friday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday and closed Sunday.

Montezuma Shrine Club. Meets every third Thursday of the month at the Masonic Center, 412 Travis Blvd., Fairfield. For more information, call Mike Michaelis at 707-427-2573 or Cal Gitsham at 707-425-0060.

Motorcycle licensing and training.

California Rider Education offers the Motorcyclists Training Course, the Basic Riders Course 2 and the Military Sportsbike Riders Course on base. MTC classes take place most weekends. Motorcycles and helmets provided. Successful completion gives students a DL389 that waives the skills test at DMV. Course cost covered for active duty, reserves, some DOD and some NAF folks. Dependents welcome, but must cover own costs. All registrations done via phone at 1-800-966-3844.

On-base child care. The Air Force requires on-base residents to be licensed by the 60th Mission Support Group if they provide more than 10 hours of care per week in their homes. For more information, call 707-424-8104 or 707-424-4596 or stop by Bldg. 380B.

Photocopying of military identification.

The prohibition in photocopying of U.S. government identification Common Access Card announced by the Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense, dated Oct. 27, 2011, does not apply to medical establishments, applying for government-issued, no-fee passport and other U.S. government agencies in the performance of official government business. This requirement does not apply to minors ages 16 years or younger. However, it applies to sponsors. For more information, call 707-424-5324.

Professional Loadmaster Association.

The Professional Loadmaster Association meets at 7 p.m. the first Tuesday of each month at the Delta Breeze Club. For more information, call Mark Raymond at 707-416-5331.

Retiree Activities Office. Openings for volunteers. Customers are retired American service members and their dependents. It is the RAO's responsibility to maintain open communication and to ensure retirees receive the service and the respect they deserve. If you would like to apply for a volunteer slot and have three hours or more to give, call 707-424-3905.

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Bible Study: 7:00-8:00 p.m.

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Email: stpaulbcfairfield@comcast.net
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Worship Service 8:00 am
Bible Study 9:00 am
Worship Service 10:30 am
Evening Prayer & Praise 6:00 pm

Wednesday Schedule:
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AWANA (Sept-May), Youth 6:00 pm
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AWANA for Kids6:15 pm
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Skills

From Page 5

members of the wing's three aerial port squadrons tested their cargo loading skills.

"It shows the levels of expertise our members have across the three aerial ports," said Senior Master Sgt. Andrea Fragoza, a wing inspection team member with the 82nd Aerial Port Squadron.

For the medical portion of the exercise, members of the

394th Aeromedical Staging Squadron were tasked to build an en-route patient staging facility and set up communications for a humanitarian mission scenario.

The objective was to set-up and receive patients in one hour, however; exercise participants were able to do so in 35 minutes.

"This was a pre-test for Patriot Warrior, an exercise that our members will be leaving for next month," said Senior Master Sgt. Shana Gale, 394th

AMW Inspector General inspection's office self-assessment program manager.

The exercise also fostered teamwork within different 349th AMW units and could not have happened without active-duty counterparts, explained 2nd Lt. Andrew McGee, 55th Aerial Port Squadron officer in charge of aerial port operations support flight.

"This was definitely a joint effort between all entities," said McGee.



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Ages 2-5

Cargill

From Page 2

clearing the danger zone, we heard another distressed radio call. "Mayday, mayday, I have provided CAP below bingo and will be punching out over the Med, come get me."

Translation: "Help, help, I have used up too much fuel and cannot make it back to base. I will be ejecting from my aircraft somewhere in the Mediterranean Sea. Come find and rescue me."

As a tanker aircraft, we had a major decision to make. With no defensive or detection capabilities, do we venture back into potentially hostile territory and refuel the remaining F-15E or do we stay clear and avoid risking

the lives of our four crewmembers aboard an \$88 million, flying gas station?

After a quick crew discussion, we decided to support our fellow Airmen. We did not see a big explosion as if the fighter was shot down and there was no radio chatter about a hostile act. With seconds to spare, we turned around and proceeded full speed to rescue the fuel-starved jet. We were willing to risk our lives to prevent four crewmembers (two from each F-15) from having to undergo a land and water rescue. After successfully refueling the F-15, its pilot returned to execute more CAP over his downed wingman. Both F-15 crewmembers were rescued.

So there I was ... nobody kicks (expletive) without tanker gas.

Assessment

From Page 5

mental health problems to obtain care."

The annual MHA fulfills a requirement of the Fiscal Year 2015 National Defense Authorization Act, and uses established Department of Defense questions for early detection of mental health issues. The questions included in the MHA are the same that Airmen see on their pre- and post-deployment health screenings. Completing the annual MHA can even substitute for specific post-deployment screenings.

Airmen will continue to fill

out the DD form 3024 online for their annual PHA, which already includes the mental health questions. Airmen will speak with a trained health-care provider or licensed mental health professional to complete the person-to-person component. Most flight personnel will meet face-to-face, and most non-flight personnel will complete this section over the phone.

Members of the Air National Guard and Air Force Reserve will begin the annual MHA later in August. For Airmen stationed at bases with MTFs belonging to other services, efforts are underway to ensure transfer of PHA questionnaires between the

services. Until this process is complete, the Air Force will utilize existing Base Operational Medical Clinic protocols to accomplish these PHAs.

Airmen who underwent a PHA in 2017 prior to July 31 do not have an additional requirement to retake it this year. Their 2018 PHA will include the MHA interview with a medical provider.

Airmen can monitor their individual medical readiness using their MyIMR page at <https://imr.afms.mil/imr/MyIMR.aspx>. This page also contains location specific information, instructions, office hours and phone numbers to help Airmen meet their IMR requirements.

Podcast

From Page 11

survive."

He said the biggest step for him was to release his ego. He put himself in situations to work with the best athletes and train alongside them, knowing that he might embarrass himself by comparison. He celebrated each time he achieved a goal and used emotion and his physical senses to harness the will to push harder and further the next time.

"Success without fulfillment is the ultimate failure. Each

success really has to be met with celebration," he explained.

Obstacle course races became a way to challenge himself while competing outside, achieving a sense of oneness with nature. He said that physical obstacles helped him place other obstacles in perspective. Any challenge is greatly affected, he said, by how you perceive it. Ken has won more than 100 obstacle course races.

Featuring stories of resilience will be a key component of the podcast going forward.

"There's a lot of Airmen out there with amazing stories. Perhaps the unit knows

the story or some friends know how they bounced back, but if (any Airmen) have something they would like to share with us that would benefit the wider Air Force, we would love to chat with them," said Bridgeham. "What helps us (on the show) isn't just knowing the principle, but the stories behind it that shows that the principle can work and does work."

A recurring theme for the podcast has been relationships – building them and improving them. The two cited a directive from the new commander of Air Combat Command, Gen. Mike Holmes, as inspiration.

Congress

From Page 8

worldwide mobility operations.

The CMFAC, co-chaired by Rep. Cathy McMorris Rodgers, R-Wash., and Rep. John Garamendi, D-Walnut Grove, whose constituency includes Travis Air Force Base, California, and multiple Solano County communities, provides an opportunity for government leaders and their colleagues to discuss mobility air forces contributions to national defense. It establishes a forum for exchange amongst its members and ensures they have access to the most accurate and up-to-date information about developments in air mobility.

McMorris Rodgers highlighted the value and need for Everhart's perspective to ensure enhanced understanding of the mobility mission set to national defense in order to fulfill its oversight role.

"Mobility airmen and aircraft are vital to our national defense because they give the United States global reach," said McMorris Rodgers. "In

today's volatile environment, with new and diverse threats all around us, it's incumbent upon us to advocate and strengthen Air Mobility Command's unique ability and mission in providing for our national defense."

Everhart's speech was tailored around AMC's four mobility focus areas: readiness, growing and developing Airmen, modernization and the nuclear mission. He spoke on the capabilities of AMC and enabling joint force operations to take place, anywhere on the planet within hours versus days.

"Mobility Air Forces are the backbone of joint operations," said Garamendi. "Rapid global mobility enables our armed forces to project American power around the world, whether for major combat operations or for humanitarian relief."

With the Air Force being the smallest and busiest it has ever been, Everhart thanked the caucus for recognizing AMC's mission impact and highlighted the continued partnership with Guard and Reserve forces

to accomplish the command's mission.

Readiness, growth and development of Airmen

AMC's readiness is not solely reliant on modern technology to get the mission done, but also having its most valuable resource, well-trained and well-equipped Airmen, ready to go at a moment's notice, said Everhart.

The general discussed AMC's role in squadron revitalization and work being done to further demonstrate the value Airmen and their families bring to national defense.

"Mobility Airmen are committed, selflessly face adversity, and work diligently with fewer resources and funding, the tradeoff has resulted in manning issues such as the national pilot shortage," said Everhart.

The Guard and Reserve are already 315 pilots short today and over the next four years there are another 1,600 AMC pilots eligible to leave the service.

Everhart spoke on how the Chief of Staff of the Air Force is committed to improving quality of life and

service within the pilot force and across the broader Air Force. He added how AMC is actively investigating ways that he can enact measures within his span of control to bring about change and improvement as well. He specifically discussed AMC's Aircrew Crisis Task Force and the over 600 responses the team processed in developing courses of action to address the top concerns.

Everhart thanked the caucus for their efforts in supporting aviator retention initiatives. He highlighted the need to ease the transition of dual-career families into communities and enhance education.

Modernization

Everhart discussed the command's look at making mobility aircraft more survivable, aircraft availability, and creating pathways to modernize the fleet. He noted that without a stable defense budget modernization innovations are difficult to achieve.

The full funding for 15 KC-46 aircraft that happened in December helped prevent the MAF from potentially breaking its contract with Boeing,

Everhart said. The Armed Services Committee has requested 17 KC-46s in the Fiscal Year 2018 National Defense Authorization Act.

He shared the importance of continually enhancing aircraft refueling capabilities and creating predictable budgetary pathways to modernize the mobility fleet.

Nuclear mission

Everhart noted the tanker fleet's role in the nuclear mission, and how modernization and survivability of the platform ensures the nation's ability to assure allies, and deter potential adversaries. The mission set requires the ability to execute global reach quickly and over vast distances.

"The tanker underwrites our nation's ability to project power rapidly," said Everhart. "It enables the 'global' aspect in global vigilance, global reach and global power."

He noted AMC's support of nuclear-capable B-2s on their way to eliminate terrorist training camps in Libya. In a 30-hour nonstop flying mission, 15 Total Force tankers from five different bases were able to make that possible.

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Saber

From Page 4

the Army to quickly and safely offload armored vehicles, troops and additional equipment to augment the para-dropped equipment.”

The 173rd performs a Joint Forcible Entry paratroop to seize and secure the airfield. Once the airfield is secured the bravo echelon, supported by the CRE, they begin to offload C-130s and C-17s delivering Strykers, equipment and additional troops to the field. From there, the Soldiers secure key terrain to support the movement of the 2nd Cavalry Regiment across the country.

Over 600 paratroopers were deployed to provide initial logistical support for follow on missions.



U.S. Air Force photo/Tech. Sgt. Liliana Moreno

A loadmaster directs the positioning of a forklift to load cargo onto a C-17 Globemaster July 19 during Exercise Saber Guardian '17 at Bezmer Air Base, Bulgaria.

Joint and combined environments are a common operating environment for CR Airmen during real-world missions.

“The professionalism and job skill displayed by all the team members should make

everyone back home in the 621st Contingency Response Wing proud, they showed that CR Airmen are truly a different breed and can make the mission happen no matter the challenges or conditions,” said Schnell.

Durrance

From Page 2

authority at critical moments to help them overcome major problems. If you do everything yourself you will do two things. You will not train anyone, thus weakening your organization, you will miss opportunities to positively influence and lead others because you are bogged down in the weeds.

A servant

This quality of leadership is related to your motivation for being there. If your motivation is to enjoy the prestige and the benefits of promotion, people will see that. If your number one motivation is getting the mission accomplished and supporting your organization, people will know that as well. What makes a leader a servant leader is first and foremost the type of motivation in the leader. When the motivation of the leader is to unleash the potential of the followers and primarily benefit the needs of the organization, that person is a servant leader. A person who is not a servant leader will tend toward more mixed motives in leading, striving to lead out of pride, manipulation and force.

A mentor

When I speak to our senior

leaders, I usually ask what they are doing to develop themselves as leaders. The days of the military leader who inspires victory primarily through personal magnetism probably ended with George Custer during the Civil War. One of the easiest ways to develop your leadership skills is to learn about other leaders. After reading the book about Moore and Plumly, I changed some of the way I approach my job. I have had senior leaders tell me they do not have time for leadership development and they have learned all they need to know by osmosis from people they served under. This severely limits our Airmen's ability to learn and grow as a leader.

How will you lead your Airmen? Hard work is important but is only the start of developing yourself, your organization and a new generation of leaders. The worst thing a leader can do is walk away from an organization which has no one prepared to deal with new challenges. This results in several years of very difficult self development and a very steep learning curve. I want to leave a program where we have Airmen leaders capable of stepping up to the next level of leadership and develop other leaders to follow behind them.

Reach

From Page 3

each time they step onto the tanker. For the rest of the world, it was on full display at Talisman Saber.

While its primary mission is aerial refueling, the KC-10 can also carry up to 75 passengers and nearly 170,000 pounds of cargo. This enables the aircraft to airlift personnel and equipment while refueling aircraft along the way. Though it can go 4,400 miles on its own without refueling, its versatility allows it to mid-air refuel from other KC-10s and extend its range.

“With that endurance ability, we can go up first and come home last and give as much gas as everybody else,” said Maj. Peter Mallow, 6th ARS pilot. “Our role is to go up and bat first and then bat last.”

The tanker's combined six fuel tanks carry more than 356,000 pounds of fuel in-flight, allowing it to complete missions like Ultimate Reach where over 4,000 pounds of fuel was offloaded in a short time to five C-17s. The amount is almost twice as much as the KC-135 Stratotanker.

“KC-10s are critical to delivering fuel to our partners,” said Welch. “Not only can we get gas, but we have a huge cargo compartment capability as well. KC-10s can bring everything mobility represents to the table.”

“The KC-10 is essential to the Air Force because we can transport any piece of cargo, equipment and personnel to anywhere in the world... any continent, any country,” said Tech. Sgt. Kenneth Cook, 6th ARS instructor boom operator. “We're able to refuel those jets who have to go answer the mission whatever it may be, or (engage in) humanitarian response.”

Additionally, the tanker's ability to switch between using an advanced aerial refueling boom or a hose and drogue centerline refueling system allows it to refuel a variety of U.S. and allied military aircraft interchangeably, as it demonstrated during Talisman Saber.

“KC-10s were able to provide force-extending air refueling,” said Mallow. “We were able to provide the capability to



U.S. Air Force photo/2nd Lt. Sarah Johnson

Airman 1st Class Patrick Tracy, 6th Air Refueling Squadron boom operator, loads aircrew equipment onto a KC-10 Extender July 14 at Royal Australian Air Force Base Richmond in Brisbane, Australia.

the C-17s that other platforms can't. Because we can carry so much gas, we have more flexibility simply because we can provide the same amount of gas over multiple receivers. That inherently is the KC-10's duty.”

“When we refueled the C-17s, it helped them get to their location and drop those paratroopers so the world can see them flying out of the aircraft and see those angels coming down,” said Cook. “It's a good feeling, knowing the KC-10 is a part of that.”

Ultimate Reach and Talisman Saber highlighted the KC-10 fleet as a fighting force, demonstrating the aircraft's unique warfighting capabilities over a wide array of locations, receivers and flying patterns.

“Not only does this kind of exercise demonstrate what we

can do, it demonstrates how we do it,” said Welch. “Our own interoperability – not just with the Air Force and the Army but with our coalition partners as well – sends a great message to our allies and those who are not our allies that we can get troops on the ground where and when we please.”

The tankers' performance during the exercise proved its unwavering support to combatant commanders and allies. It showed versatility in meeting unique mission requirements and reassured people around the world that the Air Force will always have a presence in the sky.

“Maybe one of those kids seeing a paratrooper come down will take an interest and maybe become the next Technical Sergeant Cook,” said Cook.

Cause

From Page 4

resulted from DRVT rotary bearing misalignment. The second cause, related to the first, was the boom operator's failure to turn off the boom flight control switch in a timely manner. Turning off this switch would have prevented the erratic movements that resulted in the boom departing the aircraft.

In addition, the AIB found that the failure of maintenance personnel to comply with technical orders prevented the possible detection of an erratic DRVT, significantly contributing to the mishap.

The accident investigation board president for this incident is Col. Perry Long III, 375th Operations Group commander, Scott Air Force Base, Illinois. Long was appointed president of the board by Maj. Gen. Thomas Sharpy, Air Mobility Command vice commander.

Accident investigations are intended to identify all circumstances surrounding an incident, provide an opinion based on preponderance of evidence as to the cause or causes of the mishap, and prepare a publicly releasable report on the matter.

The report is available at <http://www.amc.af.mil/Home/Media-Center/>.

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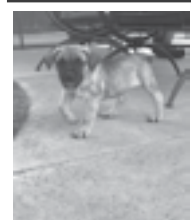
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domain. The Air Force must be masters across the spectrum.

Moving on, Goldfein said the current and future fighting force will be multi-component.

"We're more interdependent on each other as services than we've been in our history - for 26 years of continuous combat since Desert Storm," said Goldfein. "We've produced a truly joint team that excels in simultaneous combat where we've often focused on sequential and de-conflicted operations in that past."

Finally, future conflict will be multi-national and fast.

"Our greatest strategic advantage in any future conflict are our allies and partners," he said. "Simply put, we have them, our adversaries don't ... the collective economic and military might of 29 nations in the greatest alliance in history - a nuclear alliance, I might add. We must advance our ability to fight together in an age when information sharing is vital to success. And it will be fast ... the sky is no longer the limit."

DARPA

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The 2018 participants, listed alphabetically by last name, are Maj. Matthew Cisar, Pacific Air Forces; Maj. Nicholas Disney, Air Mobility Command; Maj. Colin Hanson, Air Force Materiel Command; Maj. Nathan Jordan, Air Combat Command; Maj.

Hope Klukovich, U.S. Air Force Academy; Maj. Joshua Stinson, U.S. Special Operations Command; Maj. Richard Turner, AFMC; and Maj. Christopher Uhland, Headquarters Air Force.

According to Fobbs, upon completion of their assignment to the SCFP, fellows serve as informal liaisons between DARPA and the services based on the close relationships developed during the

program and an enhanced understanding of DARPA's technology development process.

For more than 50 years, DARPA has held to a singular and enduring mission: to make pivotal investments in breakthrough technologies for national security. The genesis of that mission and of DARPA itself dates to the launch of Sputnik in 1957, and a commitment by the United States that, from that time forward, it would be

the initiator and not the victim of strategic technological surprises.

Find additional information about the Fellows program on myPers from the Developmental Education and Special Programs link off the officer Force Development landing page. Alternatively, select "Active Duty Officer" from the dropdown menu and search "DARPA."



Secretary of the Air Force Heather Wilson, left, shares a laugh with members of the 432nd Aircraft Maintenance Squadron, July 19 at Creech Air Force Base, Nev.

U.S. Air Force photo/Senior Airman Christian Clausen

Wilson

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"The Secretary of Defense has given us a task to focus on improving the lethality and readiness of the force to do the missions the nation expects of us, and anybody who wants to see what that looks like should come to Creech AFB," said Wilson.

While the remotely piloted aircraft enterprise has proven itself in combat, it hasn't been without strain on the relatively small community of Airmen who provide

the most requested assets downrange.

"The RPA community is punching above its weight and we all know that," said Wilson. "So we've done a couple of things (to help that) and I'm personally committed to the get-well plan for the RPA community."

The secretary said the number of combat lines provided by the Air Force won't increase until the RPA community has reasonable dwell time, can complete professional military education and has the ability to maintain a healthy balance between the mission and their lives.



1) Chaplain (Capt.) Philip Smith, plunges into the water July 21 during the Travis Air Force Base, Calif., block party sponsored by the Travis chaplains. The block party was intended to bring the Travis community together to enjoy free food, music and information about Travis services and organizations.

Travis lets loose during... **BLOCK PARTY**

U.S. Air Force photos by Louis Briscese



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2) Dennis Lastra, a percussionist with the music group Blessed Love Gospel Reggae, performs July 21 at the block party sponsored by the Travis chaplains.



3) Alberto Velazquez, left, and Roger Olaes pose for a photo with a wheelchair that will be given away July 21 during the block party at Travis Air Force Base, Calif., sponsored by the Travis chaplains.



4) Family and service members from Travis Air Force Base, Calif., enjoy a variety of activities July 21 during the block party.





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