



Electricians give Travis its ... **SPARK**

PAGES 10-11



Learn to stand up for your convictions

Have you ever found yourself in an awkward situation where you know the circumstances are illegal, immoral, unethical or for self-gain? The juices inside you start to boil and you become upset that such a thing occurred. You tell yourself, "Go, talk to the person about the problem; make it right."

It turns out you can't move a muscle toward the person, let alone move in their direction, so you stomp off or passively ignore the situation and walk away frustrated, yet determined to stand up for your convictions another day.

There is an old saying, "Life is filled with great intentions." Unfortunately, for many people and even me at times, standing



Commentary by Col. Ken Reyes
60TH AIR MOBILITY WING CHAPLAIN OFFICE

up for personal convictions is like telling people, "Let's stay in touch," but then you never do or, "Call me if you need anything," but you find yourself irritated when someone calls to share their needs. You never thought they'd actually call, did you? How about this common phrase: "How are you doing?" Do you really want to know? Do you have time to look someone in the eye and prepare yourself for whatever might be said? I think the majority of us would rather hear "fine" and go about our business. My personal favorite is, "I'll pray for you," but you never do.

Convictions keep us sharp, ready and able to meet any need. To me, convictions are the

Commander's Commentary

fuel of freedom. It is the food that feeds our sense of 'being' as bread and water is for the body. It is a foundational quality of the Air Force's first core value – integrity. Convictions have at least three elements: wisdom, skill and virtue.

Wisdom knows what to do next. Wisdom is fueled by our senses and we become aware something may not be right or may be out of place. We become more alert and ready. Skill knows how to do it. For many of us, our experience kicks in telling us the best course of action. Unfortunately, one of the courses of action is to do nothing because of fear, being passive or not wanting to get involved. For the rest of us, our hearts and

minds go through our life's inventory of what is the best course of action.

Finally, virtue does it. Virtue is the moral character to stand up for what is right and to say something. Isn't this what our Air Force Core Values compels us to do? I believe it does. The next time you see someone doing something and it requires your attention because it is unsafe, stupid, disrespectful or harmful, remember your convictions. Remember we have an obligation to do what is right and to right what is wrong. Sydney Harris said, "I am tired of hearing about men with the courage of their convictions. Nero, Caligula, Attila and Hitler had the courage of their convictions – but not one of them had the courage to examine his own convictions or to change them, which is the

true test of character."

Finally, I stood up to my fear of confronting someone who I believed was in error. With grace and dignity and a little shaking of the knees, I approached the person, introduced myself, expressed the purpose of the moment, shared my feelings then listened to their side of the situation. I found most people receive honesty when shared with respect and care. This person was not only appreciative someone would actually talk with him about his behavior but promised to make better decisions. I walked away a better person for sticking to what I believed was right and honorable – no boiling juices and no false promises to do it right next time. Society says, "It's none of your business." If you are a person of conviction, I say doing what is right is your business.



Commentary by Chief Master Sgt. Kahn Scalise
302ND AIRLIFT WING COMMAND CHIEF

Opportunity doesn't call ahead, so have a plan

PETERSON AIR FORCE BASE, Colo. — When opportunity knocks, it usually doesn't call ahead of time to schedule an appointment. At least it never did for me.

For me, the opportunities came suddenly and out of nowhere. Whether it was making the transition from active duty to the Air Force Reserve, landing a position at Air Force Reserve Command

Chief's Commentary

Headquarters, or my current assignment as the 302nd Airlift Wing command chief, the key was always being prepared.

Preparation is something I've learned to focus on throughout my career and I try to always be ready for what might come next. Being

ready means developing my job expertise, continuously working on my civilian and professional military education and communicating my career aspirations to my mentors and leaders.

Although nothing beats face-to-face meetings and conversations with your supervisor or mentor, another way to communicate your career goals and assignment desires is through the Reserve Enlisted

Development Plan. This tool allows you to let Air Force Reserve leaders within your career field know the direction you want to take in your career. They will be looked at by development team boards, education boards and key personnel lists.

Those leaders will review your R-EDP along with your overall record and provide you with methods

See SCALISE Page 19

Deploying band to deliver air power makes sense

Airman 1st Class Christian Conrad

60TH AIR MOBILITY WING PUBLIC AFFAIRS

When you think of "American power," what comes to mind? The "BRRRTT" of an A-10 Thunderbolt II, razing enemy hideouts beneath it? What about a C-17 Globemaster III aircraft offloading pallets of supplies and munitions to ground forces? For many infantry, it could look like a battalion of Soldiers with M4s clearing a battlefield of insurgents. But the Air Force band? What's so "powerful" about it?

Well, a lot.

Coined by Joseph Nye, the American political scientist, in 1990, the concept of "soft power" has long been evoked in foreign policy debates. Soft power, Nye said, was a country's ability to persuade and co-opt rather than coerce and control, as in the case of "hard power." In this way, it was argued that a country needed to balance these two pillars of power in order to guarantee a lasting and meaningful peace within a given environment. It was in this way that the Air Force band and other non-combatant units gained a new purpose.

Fast forward to today. Radicalization, or the process by which an individual or group is driven into extreme ideologies, is a problem faced by U.S. Central Command particularly in regions such as Egypt where Gen. Joseph Votel, USCENTCOM commander, described it

as being "challenged by a weak economy and widespread unemployment or under-employment, as well as an aggressive approach to countering internal threats which makes its population highly susceptible to radicalization by extremist elements."

For ground forces hoping to secure a region, the threat of a populace on the cusp of being radicalized means walking a tightrope between quickly and effectively eliminating an enemy's presence and also appearing as "the good guy" to civilians.

"It's definitely a challenge – coming into an area with guns drawn, knocking down doors, taking out enemy combatants, then turning around and trying to shake hands with civilians," said Master Sgt. Andrew Benton, NCO in charge and music director of Mobility, a pop and rock ensemble of the Air Force's Band of the Golden West. "Thankfully, convincing civilians we're here to help isn't something they have to do alone."

Benton, along with the six other members of Mobility, will be deploying to Qatar during which they'll be sent to various countries in the Middle East to play for embassies, foreign dignitaries, U.S. and foreign service members and local populace.

"The point of our deployment isn't to take the fight to

See BAND Page 14



U.S. Air Force photo/Lan Kim

Airmen with the U.S. Air Force Band of the Golden West pose March 11 at Travis Air Force Base, Calif.

Tailwind

Travis AFB, Calif. | 60th Air Mobility Wing

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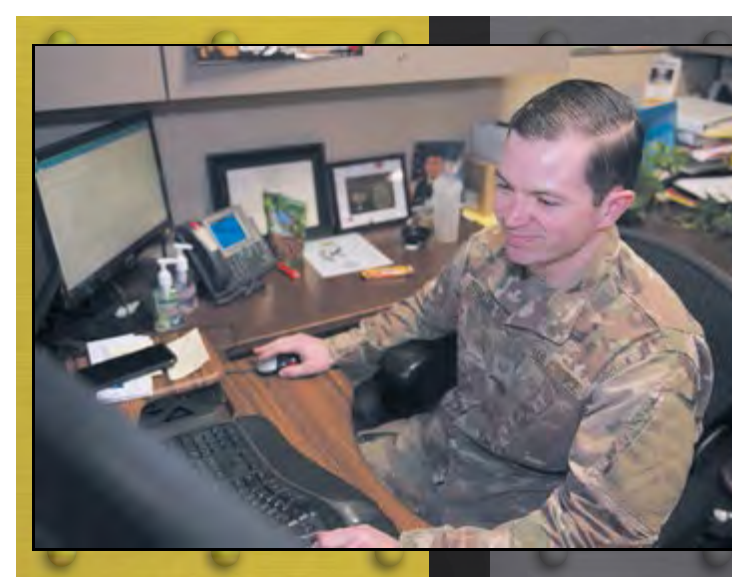
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On the cover

Airman Richard Torres, right, 60th Civil Engineering Squadron electrician, cuts a thread rod bar while Randall Ollenberger, 60th CES electrician, holds it in place March 19 at Travis Air Force Base, Calif.

U.S. Air Force photo/Airman 1st Class Cameron Otte



U.S. Air Force photo

WARRIOR OF THE WEEK

Name: Staff Sgt. Gage Bergman.	Hometown: Lawrence, Kansas.	the Air Force.
Unit: 60th Contracting Squadron.	Time in service: Eight years.	What are your hobbies? Working out, sports, eating good food.
Duty title: Team lead medical flight.	Family: None.	What is your greatest achievement? Earning and receiving contracting officer warrant.
	What are your goals? Commission and retire in	



U.S. Air Force photo/Airman 1st Class Jonathon Carnell
Arthur Pinzon, left, 60th Air Mobility Wing Education Center specialist, Abraham Jackson, middle, 60th AMW National Test Center proctor, and Joel Boyea, 60th AMW Education Center specialist, pose March 20 at Travis Air Force Base, Calif. Beginning April 1, CLEP and DSST testing returns to Travis, where Airmen can accomplish more courses and save time through the credit-by-examination programs.

Airmen can get degrees faster

Airman 1st Class Jonathon Carnell

60TH AIR MOBILITY WING PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Airmen working toward an official degree through the Community College of the Air Force or any other university can now meet the requirements quicker at Travis Air Force Base.

Airmen can accomplish more courses and save time through credit-by-examination programs, such as the College-Level Examination Program or Defense Activity for Non-Traditional Education Support Subject Standardized Tests, which will be available April 1 at the bases Education Center.

“On average a CLEP or DSST test takes a member an hour to complete,” said Joel Boyea, 60th Air

Mobility Wing Education Services specialist. “Instead of online or in a classroom, which may take eight to 16 weeks to complete.”

Both credit-by-examination programs allow Airmen to earn credit for college courses by taking and passing tests in various subject areas.

Staff Sgt. Justin Harrison, 321st Air Mobility Operations Squadron NCO in charge of expeditionary training, explained that he can take six classes focused on his particular degree through tuition-assistance and test out of the general education requirements with these programs at no additional costs.

Each free exam can save an Airman one-sixth of their \$4,500 yearly tuition assistance.

“On average an Airman spends \$750 in TA for a college course,” Boyea said. “Multiply that by thousands of those Air Force wide that take advantage of CLEP and DSST testing, and one can see the savings.”

This also means that Travis Airmen can take more time to be with their families when they take a slight pause from rapidly projecting American power anywhere.

“CLEP and DSST tests helped me use my TA for classes that actually pertain to my degree and not the general education fodder,” Harrison said. “More importantly, the chance to take (these exams) allow me to spend more time with my family.”

These programs aren’t new, but are returning to

Travis after a six-month break.

Boyea explained that in November 2018 Travis’ prior National Test Center decided not to renew their Memorandum of Understanding, so the education office diligently looked for a replacement.

“Starting this April 1, Brandman University will be Team Travis’ new national Test Center,” Boyea said. “So, walk in and take advantage of the programs.”

Airmen can attain study materials at the base library and the Education Center has handouts which contain CLEP and DSST study websites.

Walk in hours are 8:30 a.m., 11 a.m. and 2:30 p.m.

For more information, contact the Education Center at 707-424-3444.

Leaders discuss spouses’ careers

Airman 1st Class Jonathon Carnell

60TH AIR MOBILITY WING PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Maj. Gen. Sam Barrett, 18th Air Force commander, and his wife, Kelly Barrett, recently visited Travis, where they observed the Team Travis mission and gained insight on the concerns that affect Airmen and their families.

As a military spouse of 30 years, Kelly was able to relate to military spouses while she visited Scandia Elementary School, Airman and Family Readiness Center, the Mitchell library and other stops where she addressed an issue that spouses are facing nationwide – license reciprocity.

For many spouses, arriving to a new state can be a stressful time. The professional license they hold to work in a certain state might not transfer to their new state, and it can take months and cost hundreds of dollars to become certified in the new state. This is an example of license reciprocity not working for spouses or their families.

“Travis spouses are facing many of the same issues as those from other bases all across the U.S. Education, childcare and license reciprocity are really needed, because when you wrap it all up, it’s about taking care of the family,” said Kelly.

Kelly said she is focused on helping those spouses who deal with license reciprocity issues.

“When (my husband and I) visit bases, we talk to civic leaders about license reciprocity to spread the word,” said Kelly. “This is an important issue, not just for military families, but to all families. Sam and I think about how to improve support;

See CAREERS Page 19

Skyborg program seeks input for AI plan

Bryan Ripple

88TH AIR BASE WING PUBLIC AFFAIRS

WRIGHT-PATTERSON AIR FORCE BASE, Ohio — The Air Force office of Strategic Development Planning and Experimentation at the Air Force Research Laboratory is working on fielding a prototype Autonomous, Unmanned Combat Air Vehicle as an Early Operational Capability as early as 2023.

The program, known as Skyborg, and the SDPE office issued a request for information to industry March 15 to conduct market research and concept of operations analysis to learn what is commercially available now as high technology readiness level capabilities which can meet the requirements and timeline of the Skyborg program.

Skyborg officially stood up as a fiscal year 2019 funded pathfinder program through SDPE in October 2018, according to Ben Tran, Skyborg program manager.

“There was a lot of analysis that determined what was put into the CRFI,” Tran said. “We’ve been given the overall objective to have an early operational capability prototype fielded by the end of calendar year 2023, so this is our first step in determining what the current state of the art is from a technology perspective and from a systems engineering perspective to provide that EOC capability in 2023.”

Low cost, attritable, unmanned air vehicles are one way to bring mass to the fight when it comes to addressing potential near-peer engagements in the future, according to Tran.

“We also know there is heavy investment by our near-peer adversaries in artificial intelligence and autonomy in general. We know that when you couple autonomy and AI with systems

See AI Page 13

Gathering pays tribute to women’s history



U.S. Air Force photo/Heide Couch

Master Sgt. Sophia Rodriguez, 144th Fighter Wing, delivers remarks during the Women’s History Month social gathering March 20 at Travis Air Force Base, Calif. Since 1987, the month of March has been designated to celebrate the historical and ongoing achievements and contributions of women. Members of the Women Inspiring the Next Generation’s Success committee were responsible for organizing the event which included an exhibit highlighting extraordinary female heroes and featured speakers prominent in the Travis community.

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Ellsworth tapped as first B-21 base

Secretary of the Air Force Public Affairs

ARLINGTON, Va. — The Air Force announced Ellsworth Air Force Base, South Dakota, has been selected as the preferred location for the first operational B-21 Raider bomber and the formal training unit, March 27.

Whiteman AFB, Missouri, and Dyess AFB, Texas, will

receive B-21s as they become available.

The Air Force used a deliberate process to minimize mission impact during the transition, maximize facility reuse, minimize cost and reduce overhead.

“These three bomber bases are well suited for the B-21,” said Secretary of the Air Force Heather A. Wilson. “We

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1) Randall Ollenberger, 60th Civil Engineer Squadron electrician, positions an ultra boom lift March 14 at Travis Air Force Base, Calif. An ultra boom lift is a large crane used to lift a person up to reach places in need of repair. 2) Ollenberger lines up hangar door rail March 14 at Travis. Ollenberger had to straighten the hangar door rail so it would work properly. 3) Senior Airman Nathan Kvinnesland, 60th CES electrician, changes an exit sign March 19 at Travis. The 60th CES electricians conducted maintenance inspections on 250 fire alarm systems, which safeguards 27,000 personnel on a daily basis.



60th Civil Engineer Squadron provides ... JOLT

Story and photos by Airman 1st Class Cameron Otte

60TH AIR MOBILITY WING PUBLIC AFFAIRS

From powering a simple light bulb in 1879, to jets that can go faster than the speed of sound, electricity has truly changed the way humans live.

Travis Air Force Base, California, can indulge in the luxury that electricity provides because of the 60th Civil Engineer Squadron electricians.

"We perform maintenance on 394 facilities valued at \$2.6 billion for three wings at Air Mobility Command's largest mobility installation," said Tech. Sgt. Mario Francis, 60th CES NCO in charge electrical systems.

Not only do they support the entire base, but also ensure safety and mission readiness.

"Additionally, we conduct maintenance inspections on 250 fire alarm systems, safeguarding 27,000 personnel on a daily basis," said Francis. "Finally, we are responsible for providing lighting for what can be considered the most important assets on base and that is the airfield. This enables safe uninterrupted missions for 58 aircraft valued at \$8.1 billion."

The 60th CES electrician's office has a mix of experienced member, and some new to the craft.

"60th CES electricians are a team of well-trained professionals, some of whom are still learning their craft and some technical experts who work tirelessly to power the mission," said Francis.

Keeping the base powered enables every other unit to do their job, and getting to see their hard work pay off after every job promotes high moral within their office.

"I like that we see the fruits of our labor immediately after a job is finished," said Airman Richard Torres, 60th CES electrical systems apprentice. "If a building doesn't have power we are the ones who go in, we are the ones who fix it and we see immediate results when that buildings power is restored."

The electricians cover a large array of jobs. Whether it's a single street light or the flight line lighting, they ensure it's operational.

"Technicians with the 60th CES maintain building lighting, receptacles, heating and air conditioning, lift gates, the hospital, the base entrance gates, hangars and their doors, air field lighting, David Grant USAF Medical Center, office computers, TVs and so much more," said Randall Ollenberger,

60th CES electrician.

Working with electricity can be incredibly dangerous, even for those with electrical training and knowledge.

"Complacency is the biggest issue electricians face," said Torres. "We are all in this fight, but we have a lot more at stake with this career field. If you get careless, one slip of the hand could end your life."

Even with the risk electricians face, they take pride in the fact that they are the only ones with the proper training and skills to do the job that many people rely on.

"I'm very proud to be a 60th CES electrician," said Ollenberger. "Just think about if you lost power, what you would do to fix it if Travis Air Force Base didn't have the 60th CES electricians. We're here as professionals in the field to service the base and make sure everything is continuously running properly."

This is the team that keeps Travis Air Force Base operating at full power and that is something they take to heart.

"Our mission is to provide power to the base in efforts to support the overall mission of air mobility," said Torres. "And that's what we intend to do."

AI

From Page 5

like low-cost attritables, that can increase capability significantly and be a force multiplier for our Air Force and so the 2023 goal line is our attempt at bringing something to bear in a relatively quick time frame to show that we can bring that kind of capability to the fight.”

Matt Duquette, an AFRL Aerospace Systems Directorate engineer, brings a background in UAV control, autonomy, and modeling and simulation of UAVs, especially teams of UAVs to the effort while assisting the Skyborg program with formulating its approach to the autonomy system and some of the behaviors that the UAVs will have.

“Skyborg is a vessel for AI technologies that could range from rather simple algorithms to fly the aircraft and control them in airspace to the introduction of more complicated levels of AI to accomplish certain tasks or subtasks of the mission,” Duquette said.

This builds on much of the AFRL foundational work with AI shown with programs such as Have Raider and the Auto Ground and Air Collision Avoidance systems, which prove that levels of autonomy in high performance aircraft are not only possible, but also practical.

“Part of our autonomy development is building assurance into the system. You can either build assurance by using formal methods or approaches where at design time, as you develop these autonomous capabilities, you guarantee certain behaviors, or a more practical approach is to assess the capabilities of these behaviors at run time, meaning while they’re running on the aircraft. So, those are the capabilities that we’re interested in looking at from the experimentation level to see what type of assurance you need in the system so you can mix high and low criticality.”

“We’re looking at a range of vehicle performance parameters – mission analysis will help us determine what the final outcome is and the responses from the CRFI will help us understand what the performance is of currently available systems and whether those will meet the

needs or not. Everything from keeping up with combat platforms to slower platforms for sensing. There will be a range of possibilities there,” said Patrick Berry, from AFRL’s Sensors Directorate, who is supporting the Skyborg program by conducting modeling, simulation and analysis.

Although Skyborg is not scheduled for any particular type of aircraft platform at this time, Tran said the CRFI emphasizes the importance of an open systems architecture, having modularity in the system, not only from a sensing capabilities standpoint, but overall mission systems, as well as the autonomy associated with the mission capability for the platform.

“We’ve partnered with the 412th Test Wing at Edwards Air Force Base, California, and specifically an organization called the Emerging Technologies Combined Test Force and we’re working with them beginning with small, fast-moving UAVs to test the current state of the art in AI and autonomy in those airplanes and the ability for them to autonomously team and collaborate in flight,” Tran said.

Machine learning has progressed greatly over the last few years and we’re very inspired by those results and excited by things that are going on in the gaming industry for instance,” said Maj. Ryan Carr, from AFRL’s Aerospace Systems Directorate.

“We expect that technology will continue to mature fairly rapidly. What we really need to understand is, ‘How do you take that and do something like bring it to the real world and fly with it for example?’ The thing we’re trying to get at early on is how to do that safely. We’re talking about run-time assurance, working hand-in-hand with the flight test community who have a very long record of safe flight testing. That’s really what we want to focus our attention on in this early period,” Carr said.

“We want to do this in a way that builds trust in the system as you go along so that when you get to that EOC, you will have established a baseline of trust so that operational youth will believe what the system will do or believe it’s safe. It’s not just that end-state capability, it’s the trust as you go along,” he said.

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Band

From Page 3

(Islamic State in Iraq and Syria),” said Benton. “It’s to use our music to create a common thread with those in the region who could help to make that fight easier. We forge new relationships while reinforcing existing ones, and we bring the part of our culture that exists in music and the possibility that is

represented in it not as a means of entertainment, per se, but more so as a means of providing locals a culture to aspire to and be receptive of.”

The official mission tenets of the Band of the Golden West is to connect, inspire and honor. While those words are often in reference to the American public, excellence in the Air Force and servicemembers, respectively, they have the power to take on a different meaning

while deployed.

“In Afghanistan, there’s an entire youth orchestra we once visited,” said Benton. “When they saw females playing in our band, it was a surprise to them. Females playing instruments is a relatively alien concept in the Middle East because it was only 15 years ago that there’d likely have been attempts made on their lives for doing exactly that. And here we are saying, ‘Yes, females can play instruments. We think everyone should have the freedom and ability to play instruments. This is why we’re here.’ It goes a long way.”

Former Secretary of Defense James Mattis once said, “If you don’t fully fund the State Department, then I need to buy more ammunition.” The State Department, along with agencies like the Peace Corps and the Millennium Challenge Corporation, fund U.S. development projects around the world in an effort to project America’s soft power and prevent situations that would put American lives in danger.

Despite their efforts, though, deployed Airmen must stay ready for all possibilities, including the band.

“We’re required to do a 12-day field training course before we deploy,” said Benton. “It’s not really in the job description, but when there are bullets whizzing above your head, a guitar isn’t the most useful weapon to defend yourself with. So a lot of the training is contingency-based. Like, ‘you probably won’t get shot at, but if you do, at least know what to do.’”

Being prepared for contingencies is a hallmark of the U.S. military. Just like the band needs to stay ready for combat, so, too, must front-line forces make way for the possible necessity of a soft touch.

The band’s upcoming deployment will be the first for Airman 1st Class Kayla Highsmith, Mobility vocalist. For her, the band, as well as other soft power units and organizations, doesn’t represent a folly of American diplomacy, but an evolution of it.

“I believe the projection of the American image and the traditional way of doing things doesn’t make the sort of impact today as it used to,” she said. “Warfare today seems a



U.S. Air Force photo/Heide Couch

Senior Airman Salina Boodoosingh, a vocalist with the United States Air Force Band of the Golden West, gets the crowd moving Nov. 8, 2018, at Travis Air Force Base, Calif. Travis hosted Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps students from three high schools in Northern Calif. Students learned about various career fields in the U.S. Air Force, toured static aircraft, a dormitory, and had the opportunity to talk with personnel about military life.

lot more nebulous and nuanced than how it was when we were fighting Nazis, and I think in acknowledging that difference and that shift from what has always been seen as a traditional way of doing things, we need to also be open to non-traditional forms of diplomacy and achieving peace.”

One of those forms is in our investing of soft power projection, she said.

“Music is a universal language,” she continued. “It doesn’t need translators or wild gesticulation to get its point across. Neither does rebuilding a village ravaged by enemy fighters or offering medical aid to injured locals. We need to continue to explore other means of diplomacy and other ways of leveraging American influence and culture to keep making impactful improvements and headway in different parts of the world.”

Highsmith went on to underscore the importance of projecting American power

beyond what we imagine to be quantifiable strength – boots on the ground, number of aircraft flying, confirmed kills – and further into what makes our culture worth wanting to follow.

“I remember on one of my past deployments, we were tasked with facilitating a radio broadcast set up by Afghan locals and one of the core messages of the broadcast was a plea of sorts,” said Benton. “The crux of it was an address to the ISIS fighters in the area saying, ‘You’ve already killed our families, and you’ve already taken everything we have. Why don’t you just leave us alone now?’ And we played for them and, for a moment, they were able to enjoy something and forget about the violence that had swallowed their lives.

“The band and programs like it, will always be necessary not for what damage we can do, but for what damage we can undo.”

B-21

From Page 6

expect the first B-21 Raider to be delivered beginning in the mid-2020s, with subsequent deliveries phased across all

three bases.”

Ellsworth AFB was selected as the first location because it provides sufficient space and existing facilities necessary to accommodate simultaneous missions at the lowest cost and with minimal operational impact across all three bases. The

Air Force will incrementally retire existing B-1 Lancers and B-2 Spirits when a sufficient number of B-21s are delivered.

“We are procuring the B-21 Raider as a long-range, highly-survivable aircraft capable of penetrating enemy airspace with a mix of weapons,” said

Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. David L. Goldfein. “It is a central part of a penetrating joint team.”

Barksdale AFB, Louisiana,

and Minot AFB, North Dakota, will continue to host the B-52 Stratofortress which is expected to continue conducting operations through 2050.

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Scalise

From Page 2

on how to reach those goals. They will share their thoughts regarding possible special duty assignments, civilian and military education opportunities and future leadership positions.

Even though the R-EDP is only required for technical sergeants and above, I believe it's still valuable for all enlisted Airmen to complete – it's one of the most powerful tools I've used throughout my career to be ready when opportunity knocks.

Here are a few things to keep in mind while you are preparing your R-EDP:

- Think about your short and long-term career goals, education interests and future assignments you may be

interested in.

- Remember to focus on what you want to do for the Air Force.

- Prepare your R-EDP in a timely manner.

- Know the dates of the boards you may meet.

- Make sure your military record is accurate and up to date with performance reports, professional military education, civilian education, duty history, point summary and decorations.

- Be sure to share both military and civilian experiences and achievements.

I know that as reservists our time is limited, but completing the R-EDP is important because I want each and every one of you to be ready when opportunity unexpectedly decides to knock at your door. So, I urge you to work with your leadership and start your R-EDP today.

Careers

From Page 4

we were a young Air Force family once, too. We know family structure has an effect on the mission and retention decisions.

According to the National Conference of State Legislatures July 2018 research, up to 35 percent of military spouses are employed in career fields requiring licenses, though non-military affiliated civilians in licensed professions were 36 percent less likely to move between states.

"For example, California passed a bill in 2012 requiring occupational boards to have processes to speed up license transfer for military spouses, that includes all career fields that require a state license," said Kelly. "However, in the medical community, (the boards for Massage Therapy) will not expedite military spouses' applications. It may be a matter of simply educating our families on what resources are available, which is what we're hoping to do on these visits.

"License reciprocity is important because it allows military spouses a smoother and shorter transition into the workforce," she said. By removing this stress on families,



U.S. Air Force photo/Airman 1st Class Jonathon Carnell

Beginning April 1, College Level Examination Program and DSST testing returns to Travis where Airmen can accomplish more courses and save time through the credit-by-examination programs. Each free exam can save Airmen one-sixth of their \$4,500 yearly tuition assistance.

it allows Airmen to focus on the mission."

According to Kelly, it's not just about informing civic leaders. She also encourages spouses to be proactive, talk with other spouses to discuss their experiences, and get plugged in with the key spouses program and the Military Spouse Network. These are platforms where spouses can voice their concerns, ask questions and ultimately network with fellow spouses.

Travis' Airman and Family Readiness Center has many programs for spouses. For more information contact the A&FRC at 707-424-2486 or <https://www.travisafrc.com/>

Airman 1st Class Christian Conrad contributed to this story.

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