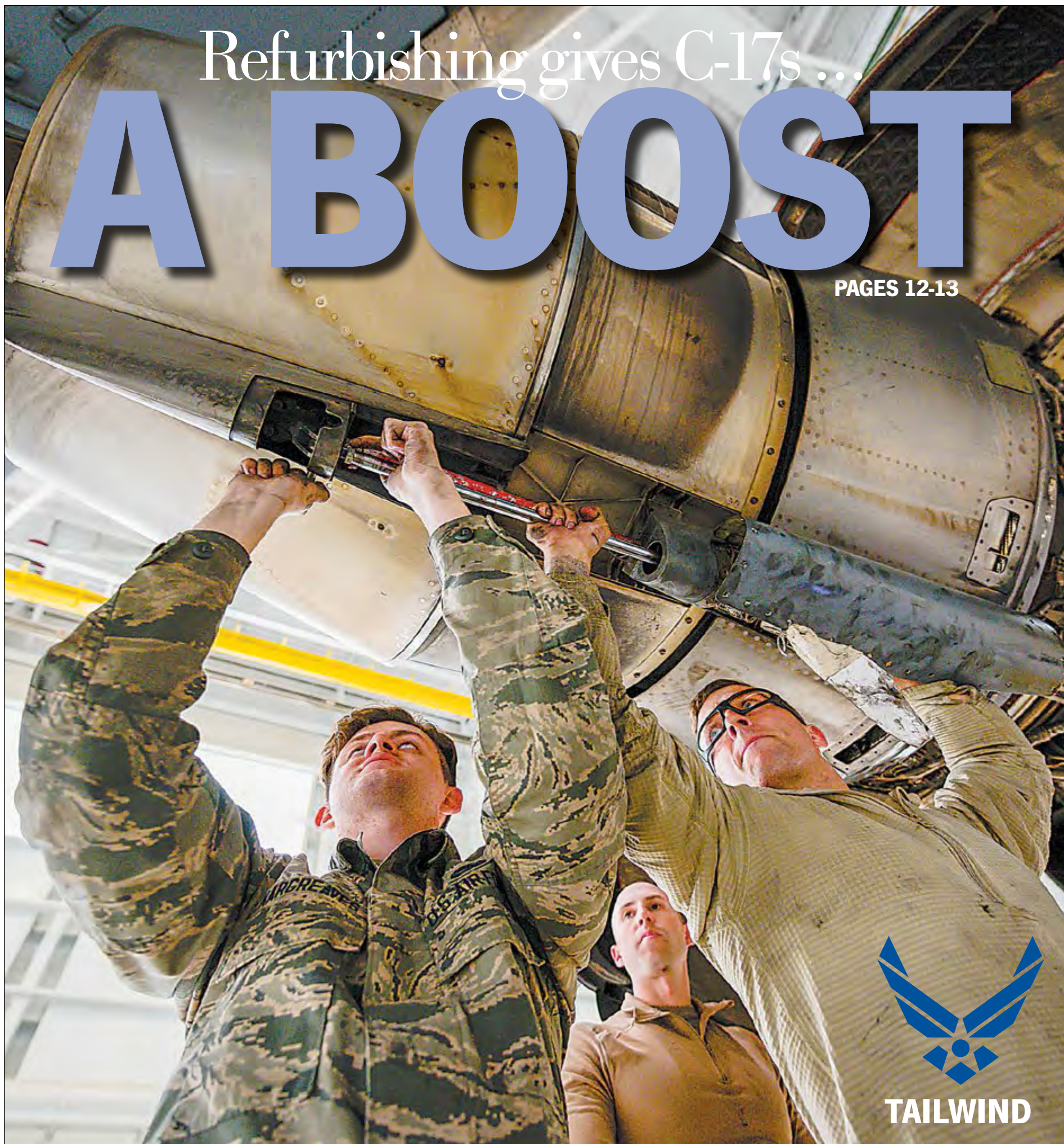


Refurbishing gives C-17s ...

A BOOST

PAGES 12-13



TAILWIND

Jazz giant performed, recorded live album at Travis

Nick DeCicco

60TH AIR MOBILITY WING PUBLIC AFFAIRS

All right, all you hep cats and kittens, let's swing on back to March 4, 1958, at Travis Air Force Base, California.

Get on your finest rags because tonight we're trucking over to the NCO Club to see Duke Ellington. You dig?

"The Duke," who died in 1974, was one of the most important figures in the history of American jazz. A pianist and prolific composer, Ellington's career spanned 60 years, from his early, steady appearances at the Cotton Club in New York City in the 1920s to decades as the leader a touring ensemble around the world.

It's a legacy so expansive that his 1958 show at Travis – the first of three at the base, with others Oct. 11, 1962 and Sept. 20, 1964 – is just one brief beat in the long song of his career.

Details of the shows have been lost over time. However, the 1958 performance was recorded. It stayed unreleased for

See **ELLINGTON** Page 22

APPEARING IN PERSON

MARCH 4, 1958



U.S. Army photo

DUKE ELLINGTON AND HIS ORCHESTRA

Innovation spurs project for new power generators

Tech. Sgt. Liliana Moreno

621ST CONTINGENCY RESPONSE WING PUBLIC AFFAIRS

In its continuing effort to become more light, lean and lethal, Airmen from the 821st Contingency Response Group assigned to Travis Air Force Base in California, continue to advance the concept of a smaller power generator, with the capability to support contingency response missions and Joint Services across the entire Global Air Distribution Network.

On Feb. 3, Airmen from the U.S. Air Force Expeditionary Center at Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst, New Jersey, and the 821st Contingency Response Support Squadron, met at Scaled Power's test facility in San Francisco, California, for a turbo generator demonstration which is in line with and completes phase-one of a three-phase Research, Development, Test and Evaluation project.

"The 821st CRG devised a plan to explore power production alternatives to the current base operations support generators, the 30kW MEP-805 and the 60kW MEP-806, which are bulky in size, reliability rates are below standard and they spread across multiple pallet positions on an aircraft," said 1st Lt. Jack Robinson, 821st CRSS civil engineer officer. "This is a noteworthy project that advances an initiative that will not only meet the needs of the CRG power production and transportation requirements, but it will also have the potential to be fielded throughout the military as a whole once complete."

The original idea was submitted by the 821st CRSS power production shop through the base's Phoenix Spark program.

"This concept started at the shop level by the Airmen that work with the equipment and knew there was a better way to do the mission," said Lt. Col. Scott Zarbo,



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

Tech. Sgt. Anthony Bennett and 1st Lt. Jack Robinson, both with the 821st Contingency Response Support Squadron, discuss the capabilities of a mobile power generator with Greg Thomas, Scaled Power lead propulsion engineer, during a demonstration at Scaled Power's test facility Feb. 3 in San Francisco.

821st CRSS commander. "To see the development of their idea get championed and funded to this point helps to re-enforce the notion that ideas from the field on ways to improve how business is done are taken seriously."

In April 2019, the project was awarded to Scaled Power and is currently managed by the 821st CRG through Army

Contracting Command.

"Scaled Power's solution is the first of its kind, boasting 30kW turbine power output in such a small size while remaining multi fuel capable," Robinson said. "Once fully developed, the contingency response wing will be able to ship eight 30kW generators on a pallet that we currently can only fit two on. This has the

potential to transform the way that the CRW and the Department of Defense utilizes and deploys power generation capability worldwide."

To initiate Phase I, AFWERX and U.S. Transportation Command committed \$120,000 each using Small Business

See **GENERATORS** Page 19

Tailwind

Travis AFB, Calif. | 60th Air Mobility Wing

Air Force

- Col. Jeffrey Nelson
60th Air Mobility Wing commander
- Capt. Erica Feehan
Chief of command information
- Tech. Sgt. Traci Keller
NCO in charge of command information
- Senior Airman Amy Younger
- Airman 1st Class Cameron Otte
- Nicholas Pilch
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Deadline for copy is 4:30 p.m. Friday for the following Friday's issue. Swap ads must be brought to Bldg. 51 by noon Monday for possible print in that Friday's issue. Emailed or faxed Swap Ads are not accepted.

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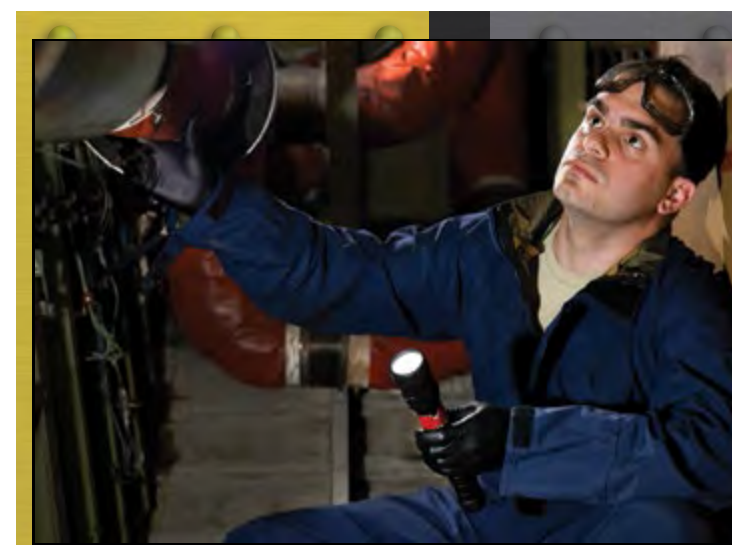
Table of contents

- The Flip Side 11/14
- Cover story 12-13
- Worship services 16-17
- Classifieds 20-21
- Parting Shots 23

On the cover

Airman 1st Class Collin Hargreaves, left, and Senior Airman Bailey Lovell, right, replace an actuator component on a C-17 Globemaster III engine as Tech. Sgt. Chris Dimorier, all with the 860th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron, supervises Feb. 20 at Travis Air Force Base.

U.S. Air Force photo/Nicholas Pilch



U.S. Air Force photo/Nicholas Pilch

WARRIOR OF THE WEEK

- | | | |
|--|---|---|
| Name:
Airman 1st Class
Gustavo Ramirez-Vazquez. | Hometown:
Toa Alta, Puerto Rico. | Family:
Spouse, Leyla Barrientos. |
| Unit:
60th Maintenance Squadron. | Time in service:
One year. | What are your hobbies?
Cooking, playing with my dog and hiking. |
| Duty title:
Aircraft fuel system technician. | What are your goals?
I hope to some day be accepted to Officer Training School. | What is your greatest achievement?
Joining the Air Force. |



Staff Sgt. Demetrius Thornton, 605th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron primary flying crew chief, checks the engine of a KC-10 Extender in preparation for a Black History Month heritage air-refueling flight Feb. 13 on Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst, New Jersey. Thornton explained that while organizing the flight to give recognition to his Wing and honor BHM, he realized how few African-American aircrew members there are.

Service shares black heritage

Senior Airman Ariel Owings
JOINT BASE MCGUIRE-DIX-LAKEHURST
PUBLIC AFFAIRS

JOINT BASE MCGUIRE-DIX-LAKEHURST, N.J. — States, installations and individuals all celebrate Black History Month in their own way, which honors what it means to them.

Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst, New Jersey, Airmen came together to celebrate and honor BHM by organizing a heritage air-refueling flight with Airmen from Dover Air Force Base, Delaware over the east coast, Feb. 13.

The KC-10 Extender assigned to the 305th Air Mobility Wing was piloted by an

all African American crew from different airlift squadrons around the installation. The purpose of the heritage flight was to showcase the accomplishments African American's have made in the U.S. Air Force and to inspire others, not just African Americans, to reach for what they may think is impossible.

"I want to make sure that anyone and everyone serving in the military knows they have the opportunity to experience the feeling of having an impact and making a difference," said U.S. Air Force Staff Sgt. Demetrius Thornton, 605th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron primary flying crew chief. "I want them to know

they can be a part of change. That's what this flight was about."

U.S. Air Force Col. Adrian Byers, 514th Air Mobility Wing vice commander, piloted the KC-10 and spoke of previous heritage flights he had put together for a multitude of observances. Byers felt when military installations are able to put heritage flights together, it brings a sense of pride and remembrance of the legacy they came from.

"We make diversity what it is," said Byers. "The military always talks about unity and morale — those things are color blind. As a service (though), we turn around and look for ways to include every single heritage that we

have into an organization. There are times when you have to bring out what an individual's heritage means to them and allow them to be proud of the achievements the people in their heritage or culture have made."

The importance of this heritage flight has the ability to speak volumes to not only African Americans, but about the KC-10 community. Thornton explained that while organizing the flight, he realized how few African American aircrew members there are.

To represent BHM he pulled two pilots, one from the 514th AMW and one from the 305th AMW, a 32nd

See HERITAGE Page 18

Commentary

Month focuses on voting

To commemorate and celebrate the contributions to our nation made by people of African descent, American historian Carter G. Woodson established Black History Week.

He realized the importance of providing a theme to focus the attention of the public. The intention was never to dictate or limit the exploration of the black experience, but to bring public attention to important developments that merit emphasis.



Commentary by Timothy W. Finney
60TH AIR MOBILITY WING
DRUG DEMAND REDUCTION PROGRAM MANAGER

The first celebration occurred Feb. 12, 1926. For many years, the second week of February was set aside for this celebration to coincide with the birthdays of abolitionist Frederick Douglass and President Abraham Lincoln. In 1976, as part of the nation's bicentennial, the week was expanded to a month. Since then, U.S. presidents have proclaimed February as National African American History Month.

Each year, the theme changes to represent a significant event or milestone during the history of African Americans. This year's theme is African Americans and the Vote. It recognizes the struggle for voting rights among both black men and women throughout American history. It is an ongoing struggle for people of color which continues into the 21st century.

The year 2020 is a landmark year for voting rights. It marks the 150th anniversary of the 15th

See FINNEY Page 18

Military Star card delivers savings

Lorraine Harris-Ortega
ARMY & AIR FORCE EXCHANGE
SERVICE PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Spring is in the air and so are savings with Military Star.

From March 5-19, Travis Army and Air Force Exchange shoppers who apply and are approved for a new Military Star account will receive 15% off all purchases made the first day instead of the 10% discount regularly offered. The discount will appear as a credit on the first monthly billing statement.

"With special discounts and cardholder-friendly terms, the Military Star card is a financial benefit to military members and their families," said Phonda Bishop, Travis Base Exchange general manager. "Opening a new account during this special promotion means extra on top of the everyday savings shoppers get with Military Star."

Cardholders receive two points for every dollar spent with Military Star and automatically earn a \$20 rewards card every 2,000 points.

Other benefits of the Military Star card include:

- The lowest flat-rate APR (11.74%) among store cards — rate is offered to all cardholders upon account approval.
- No annual, late or over-limit fees.
- Reduced-interest deployment plan with no payments required for eligible customers.

The Exchange recently welcomed 4.1 million Veterans with service-connected disabilities, Purple Heart recipients, former prisoners of war and certain primary caregivers back to in-store shopping privileges at exchanges and commissaries. These new shoppers can also apply for a Military Star card for more opportunities to save money and earn rewards.

Travis, Fairchild train on KC-135 together



1st Lt. Elayne Smith, 43rd Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron flight nurse, places electrocardiogram leads onto a training mannequin during an aeromedical evacuation training mission Feb. 11 at Travis Air Force Base, California. The 43rd AES is transitioning from its station at Pope Army Airfield, North Carolina, to become part of the 60th AES at Travis Air Force Base, California, providing more training opportunities on the KC-10 Extender, C-5 Super Galaxy and C-17 Globemaster III based there, as well as KC-135s based out of Fairchild.

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MacDill KC-135 provides training for next generation



U.S. Air Force photo/Staff Sgt. Jeffrey Michal

An F-16 Fighting Falcon aircraft from the 182nd Fighter Squadron, at Kelly Field, Texas, conducts aerial refueling training Jan. 27-31 with a KC-135 Stratotanker aircraft from the 6th Air Refueling Wing, MacDill Air Force Base, Florida, over Texas. Working closely with the instructor pilots of the 182nd FS, the KC-135 crew supported the completion of aerial refueling training for 18 F-16 students and the re-qualification of 15 F-16 instructor pilots.

Marvin Krause

6TH AIR REFUELING WING PUBLIC AFFAIRS

MACDILL AIR FORCE BASE, Fla. — Four turbofans, mounted under 35-degree swept wings, power a MacDill KC-135 Stratotanker aircraft to take-off in support of aerial refueling training for the U.S. Air Force's next generation of Airmen.

Fourteen Mobility Airmen from the 6th Operations Group and 6th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron provided aerial refueling support to F-16 Fighting Falcon aircraft from the 182nd Fighter Squadron, Kelly Field, Texas, Jan. 27-31.

"We flew one KC-135R, call sign DREW211, to Kelly Field for a week-long training and operations support for the 182nd Fighter Squadron," said Capt. Craig Wojtkiewicz, mission commander pilot from the 6th OG. "The crew consisted of two instructor pilots, one co-pilot, two aircraft commander upgrade students, two instructor boom operators and four mission certification training boom operators."

The 182nd Fighter Squadron is an Air National Guard unit that belongs to the 149th Fighter Wing. The unit traces back to 1943 when the 396th Fighter Squadron was activated during

World War II.

Today, the 182nd develops and trains the next generation of F-16C fighter pilots, both active, guard and reserve. One facet of their training is learning how to in-air refuel from the various tanker aircraft available in the Air Force inventory.

"Each day, we would plan our mission, brief and launch our KC-135 for a five to six hour-long sortie," added Wojtkiewicz. "We would meet the first wave of F-16s in the air refueling track and refuel each F-16 fighter aircraft piloted by student and instructor pilots."

After completing the first wave of refueling, the Stratotanker returned to Kelly Field and for two-hours, the crew of DREW211 practiced aircraft landings, also known as, "touch-and-go's" for their own training and proficiency.

"During this time, we would also practice emergency procedures including manually extending the aircraft's landing gear and wing flaps—important procedures which are critical training items for the younger boom operators," Wojtkiewicz said.

Once the appropriate time came, the KC-135 would depart Kelly Field again and return to

See KC-135 Page 19

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Ceremony commemorates retaking of island

Staff Sgt. David Owsianka
7TH BOMB WING PUBLIC AFFAIRS

DYESS AIR FORCE BASE, Texas — U.S. service members from the 317th Airlift Wing from Dyess Air Force Base, Texas, and the 2nd Battalion, 503rd Infantry Regiment from Vicenza, Italy, commemorated members of the allied forces in World War II during a ceremony marking the 75th anniversary of the retaking of Corregidor Island Feb. 17 at the Manila American Cemetery and Memorial in Manila, Philippines.

The ceremony honored those who fought and died during the retaking of Corregidor Island in order to retake the island from the Imperial Japanese forces.

"This was a historic day for us to come together, commemorate and honor the U.S. and Filipinos on this sacred ground," said Col. Jeffrey Menasco, 317th AW commander. "We honor their sacrifice, we are thankful for the freedom they provided to us and our allies, and we are forever indebted to their bravery and heroics demonstrated in combat."

During the ceremony, service members from the 317th AW and 503rd IR stood in formation to pay tribute to the fallen military members, wreaths

were laid to recognize 40 Airmen from the 317th Troop Carrier Group and 90 soldiers from the 503rd Parachute Infantry Regiment, and Airmen laid flags at the grave sites of service members who served in the 317th AW.

There were also two C-130J Super Hercules aircraft from Dyess AFB and one from Little Rock Air Force Base, Arkansas, that were decorated with 'Jungle Skipper' decals on the plane in order to pay tribute to the Douglas C-47 Skytrain aircraft flown by the 317th Troop Carrier Group during World War II.

"This was a great to be able to recognize what our service members accomplished 75 years after it took place," said Brian Smith, 317th AW historian. "Both units were part of three major drops in the Pacific Theater during World War II, with one of them was the retaking of Corregidor Island. It's important to remember our history because it helps build camaraderie within the squadron and the 503rd IR received their nickname, 'The Rock,' from Corregidor."

During the 10-day retaking of Corregidor, the 317th TCG, now the 317th AW, airdropped

See ISLAND Page 18



U.S. Air Force photo/Staff Sgt. David Owsianka

Airman 1st Class Ana Olarke, 317th Operations Support Squadron aircrew flight equipment journeyman, walks between the Walls of Missing at the Manila American Cemetery Feb. 17 in Manila, Philippines. The Walls of Missing recognizes service members from the U.S. and Philippine militaries who have gone missing during conflicts.

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MHS aims to spit out smokeless tobacco for good

Smokeless tobacco is not a healthier alternative to smoking. Links exist to its use and several cancers – not to mention leathery patches in the mouth, stained teeth, and bad breath. Users took advantage of the Great American Spit Out Feb. 20 to begin their path to a tobacco-free lifestyle.

U.S. Marine Corps photo



Military Health System Communications Office

Smokeless tobacco use by service members is much higher than in the U.S. adult population.

This fact concerns the military medical community. Users say it helps with alertness, and allows them to stay connected with peers. But evidence links products like snuff, dip, and chewing tobacco to cancer and poor oral health. Such products also contain nicotine and are addictive.

To the Military Health System, using tobacco in any form poses a threat to readiness and the overall health of the force. Smokeless tobacco contains over 30 chemicals that cause cancer. It's not a safe alternative to other forms of tobacco, like cigarettes.

On Feb. 20, MHS encouraged all smokeless tobacco users to stop – even if just for a day – for the Great American Spit Out. One day might lead to a second and set users on a path to stopping for good.

“We know that nicotine helps with alertness. But smokeless tobacco products also have negative effects on dental, readiness, and long-term health,” said U.S. Public Health Service Capt. Kimberly Elenberg, director of the Defense Health Agency's Total Force Fitness office.

DoD's tobacco education campaign, YouCanQuit2, urges tobacco users to assess their readiness to take action and make a plan to quit.

YouCanQuit2 provides many resources to service members and beneficiaries on their journey to becoming tobacco free.

“We're providing them with education, and also support for quitting tobacco if they so choose,” Elenberg said. “This includes a 24/7 Live Chat for questions, support, and encouragement, as well as an interactive savings calculator.”

YouCanQuit2 can help people quit in several ways. There are tips for writing a quit plan, and for managing cravings and stress. There's information on prescription and over-the-counter products to help people quit. There are even ideas to prevent weight gain. Plus, care providers can order and print out campaign materials.

YouCanQuit2 has Instagram, Facebook, and Twitter channels. All provide ideas on ways to quit.

Tricare offers many benefits aimed at quitting smokeless tobacco use. Tricare-authorized providers can counsel beneficiaries age 18 or older who live in the United States or District of Columbia. Medicare recipients are not eligible.

Research shows that using a program and a product together increases chances of quitting for good. As a result, coverage of tobacco cessation products is provided through military pharmacies or the Tricare pharmacy home delivery program. These products include Chantix, Zyban, and nicotine replacement therapy, such as nasal sprays, inhalers, patches, gum, and lozenges. There's no cost, although brands vary by pharmacy and generics may be provided. A prescription is needed for all products from a Tricare-authorized provider, even if the product can be bought over the counter. The

See **SMOKELESS** Page 15

Air Force considers changes to future basing decisions

Secretary of the Air Force Public Affairs

WASHINGTON — The Air Force approved criteria Feb. 24 to assess states' policies for accepting professional, career licenses and a community's public education system support of military children as part of its strategic basing process.

The addition of these criteria aims to ensure locations under consideration have sufficient support for the unique needs of military families who relocate frequently.

“The communities where service members live and work impact readiness, retention and the satisfaction of families,” said Secretary of the Air Force Barbara M. Barrett. “Future basing decisions made with a consistent framework will ensure optimal conditions for service members and their families.”

Military members report that local public education aspects and support for their

children and the ability of their spouses to sustain careers move after move influence their decisions to remain on active duty.

To address these concerns, the Air Force collaborated with policy professionals and subject matter experts to develop two types of analytic frameworks. The public education framework will be used to evaluate public school districts' educational aspects and ability to support transferring military children in prekindergarten through 12th grade near Air Force installations.

The licensure portability framework will be used to assess state laws, governors' executive orders, state Supreme Court or bar association rules and the ability for an area to accommodate licenses earned from other locations.

While mission requirements remain the top priority for where a mission is based, the Air Force has developed

See **BASING** Page 15



Courtesy photo

Staff Sgt. Nicholas Gray, 325th Security Forces Squadron Military Working Dog handler assigned to Tyndall Air Force Base, Fla., poses for a picture with his K-9, Kira, on Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst, N.J.

Working dog reaches retirement

Senior Airman Ariel Owings JOINT BASE MCGUIRE-DIX-LAKEHURST PUBLIC AFFAIRS

JOINT BASE MCGUIRE-DIX-LAKEHURST, N.J. — Earlier this year, the Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst K-9 team retired one of their military working dogs, Kira, after six years of service.

Whelped in Feb. 2011, the 9-year-old deployed several times along with multiple U.S. Secret Service missions during her six years stationed at Joint Base MDL. Kira worked as a dual MWD with the titles Patrol dog and Explosive Detector dog.

Handling her for a short nine months, U.S. Air Force Staff Sgt. Nicholas Gray, 325th Security Forces Squadron MWD handler assigned to Tyndall Air Force Base, Florida, traveled back to Joint Base MDL for the celebration where Kira was gifted a steak as a symbol of her retirement.

“Being able to bond with her in such a short time was a (unique) experience,” said Gray. “She was misunderstood

and feared for how intense she was. Others just didn't (have the patience) to take the time to get to know her.”

During her service, Kira was Gray's second K-9. This was his first time handling a dual MWD and was one of the more difficult K-9s to train.

“Dogs like her can be hard because they have this misconception of them,” said U.S. Air Force Staff Sgt. Caitlin Bourque, 87th SFS MWD handler. “They go throughout their career feared because they come off differently toward other people. When you get a

handler that takes their time and they have the patience to understand that dog, you get to see that bond and see a different side of her. Gray is fearless as a handler so I can see why (he) and Kira were matched perfectly together.”

Gray explains how Kira's behavior completely changed once she was retired. He believes the change is due to her being removed from the high-stress work environment and placed in a family home where she is allowed to relax.

“When she was in the

See **DOG** Page 15

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Air National Guard photo/2nd Lt. Emerson Marcus

The 152nd Airlift Wing, Nevada Air National Guard, became the newest unit to develop an AFWERX Spark Cell with the creation of "Silver State Spark." A Spark Cell is a grassroots innovation program that empowers Airmen to bring tomorrow's tools to the warfighter today.

Air National Guard unit to launch AFWERX Spark Cell

2nd Lt. Emerson Marcus
 152 AIRLIFT WING PUBLIC AFFAIRS

RENO, Nev. — About 70 Spark Cells have launched around the world since the Air Force debuted AFWERX in 2017 – with a majority in the active-duty sector.

That's changing as the Air National Guard enters the fold.

Earlier this month, the 152nd Airlift Wing, Nevada ANG, also known as the "High Rollers," became the newest unit with the creation of "Silver State Spark."

"For more than a decade, we've seen the private sector, particularly the tech sector, move in this direction toward promoting new ideas and entrepreneurship as a bottom-up approach," said Col. Jacob Hammons, 152nd Airlift Wing commander, who began planning for the creation of a Spark Cell shortly after he took command last November. "A Spark Cell gives Airmen of all ranks

the opportunity to think creatively toward new and innovative solutions to the challenges they face in the daily conduct of flying, fighting and winning our nation's wars."

Maj. Greg Green, 152nd Airlift Wing's spark team facilitator, attended a Spark Cell training Feb. 19-21 at the AFWERX hub in Las Vegas.

About 100 military and Defense Department civilians attended the training.

"A Spark Cell is a grassroots innovation program that empowers Airmen to bring tomorrow's tools to the warfighter today," said Maj. Tony Perez, AFWERX spark director, who organized the training in Las Vegas.

Each Spark Cell is different, largely because units receive autonomy in the development of their own program.

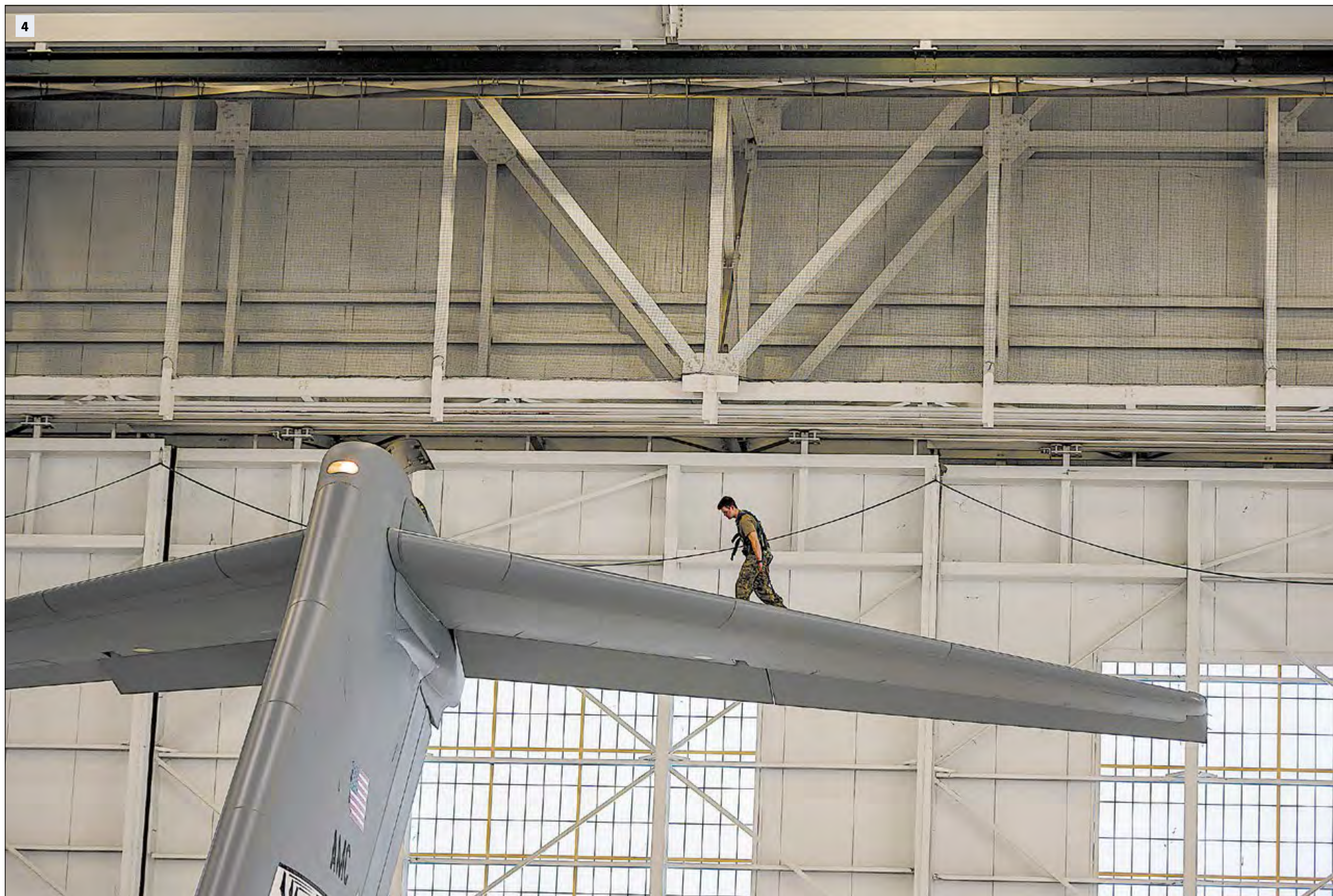
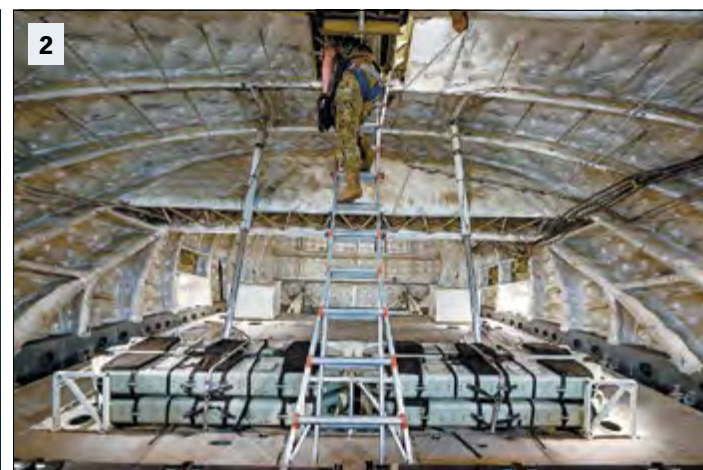
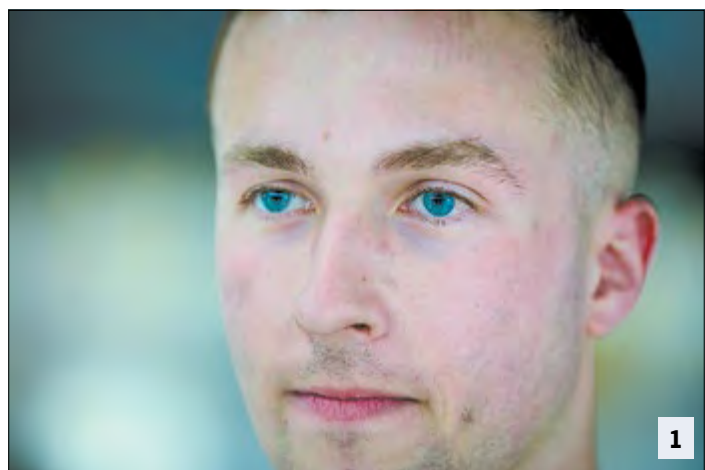
Green's program will provide Airmen – with commander approval – the ability to spend up to

five days during technician work hours or annual training days to research and plan their proposal. At the conclusion of their research and finalization of the plan, an Airman will have the opportunity to present the proposal to their commander for potential implementation.

"Airmen are already approaching us with interesting ideas," Green said. "There's no doubt a demand for improving the way we do business." For more information or submissions, email Green at gregory.c.green6.mil@mail.mil.

Based largely on the "startup" model, Spark Cells encourage Airmen to act as intrapreneurs, which is widely defined as a person working in a large corporation or government who takes an initiative to create new ideas, products or processes. Some Spark Cells hold hackathon or collider events. AFWERX hosted its first collider event last year.

Airmen refurbish C-17s at Travis AFB



1) Senior Airman Bailey Lovell, 860th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron aerospace propulsion specialist, stands Feb. 20 at Travis Air Force Base, California. Lovell inspects engines on C-17 Globemaster IIIs. Each month, 860th AMXS Airmen refurbish a C-17 which saves the Air Force money and keeps the gray tails mission ready. 2) Staff Sgt. Mitchell Halbleib, 60th Maintenance Squadron aerospace repair specialist, descends from the tail of a C-17 after ensuring proper operation of the elevator systems of the tail Feb. 20 at Travis. 3) Staff Sgt. Arthur Ingalls, 860th AMXS inspection section team leader, sweeps under the fuselage of a C-17 Feb. 20 at Travis. 4) Staff Sgt. Mitchell Halbleib, 60th MXS aerospace repair specialist, ensures the proper operation of elevator systems on the tail of a C-17 Feb. 20 at Travis.



Smokeless

From Page 8

minimum age is 18 and Medicare recipients are not eligible. None of these products are covered at retail pharmacies.

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Basing

From Page 9

a process to include these support of military family considerations. The methodology for these criteria will be used for future basing decisions as the Air Force continues to collaborate with policy professionals and subject matter experts.

“We know improving schools and changing licensure regulations take time, but efforts to meet the unique needs of military families are vital,” Barrett said. “States that have improved services for military families should be commended and emulated.”

The criteria will be formally incorporated into the basing process in the spring.

Dog

From Page 9

kennels, she would crunch her face almost like she was frowning,” said Gray. “The first night I brought her home, you could tell from her facial reaction that she was completely relaxed. She was on cloud nine.”

During the barbecue, Bourque shared how when Kira was brought out, everyone was watching her to see what she would do and Kira was

watching them back. She ate the steak within ten seconds and was ready to go home.

“I didn’t even watch her chew,” said Bourque. “She was just happy to be retired and as soon as the steak was gone, she walked outside to Gray’s car and hopped in the passenger seat like she was ready to go.”

After the celebration, Gray immediately adopted Kira and brought her home to Tyndall AFB where she will live out the rest of her life as a normal house pet.

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Finney

From Page 4

Amendment which gave the right to vote to black men following the Civil War. One day after the ratification of the 15th Amendment, March 13, 1870, Thomas Peterson became the first African American to cast a ballot in a U.S. election.

Despite passage of the 15th Amendment, black people in the south became disenfranchised by different political maneuvers to keep them from voting. Some states implemented literacy tests, poll taxes, grandfather clauses and other methods which were illegal. These tactics were used until the 20th century. In the mid-60s multiple voting rights campaigns were held, leading to African Americans making their voices heard.

The civil rights movement

worked tirelessly to make sure anti-discrimination laws became the standard practice instead of the exception to the rule. President Lyndon Johnson signed the National Voting Rights Act of 1965. This act made discrimination against black voters illegal. Prior to the signing of the Voting Act of 1965, an estimated 23% of voting-age black people were registered to vote. In 1969, the number of voters jumped to 61%. In the southern states the numbers were more dramatic. In Mississippi, the number jumped from six to 66.5%. This increase in African American registered voters led to the election of African Americans to federal, state, local offices and eventually the president of the United States.

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Heritage

From Page 4

Air Refueling Squadron boom operator, one 2nd Air Refueling Squadron flight engineer and 605th AMXS crew chief.

“Sometimes you are the only example of goodness some people may see, some people never experience that,” said Thornton. “I want to make sure that if I were to walk away from the Air Force today, the legacy I leave behind would be an

instruction manual for those, like me, of how to navigate through the Air Force and life. Not just African Americans, but everyone. It is not only something I want to do, it is my duty as a noncommissioned officer and a fellow Airman.”

Joint Base MDL has a variety of organizations that allow their military members to express their pride of the culture and heritage they identify with. The African American Cultural Association was established in 2019 at Joint Base MDL and have set up different

events throughout the month of February to allow the community to come together no matter their background or identification and honor BHM in different ways.

So far this month, AACA has celebrated with two movie nights with films that show the history of African Americans in the military along with a paint n’ sip for the artists in the community. If you are interested in participating in future events, contact the African American Cultural Association at 609-754-5498.

Island

From Page 7

paratroopers from the 503rd IR to fight enemy forces on the island. By regaining the island, allied forces were able to obtain control of the entrance into Manila Bay and reopen a strategic port to push back enemy forces.

Retaking Corregidor also had a strong symbolic value because it was the one of two locations that had the largest number of American troops surrender in 1942.

“It was humbling to be able

to put ourselves in the shoes of those who planned the sorties and solved the tactical problem of landing on a small drop zone as we learned what was accomplished and everything that went into the mission,” said Maj. Michael Mayor, 317th Airlift Wing inspector general. “To understand how the mission was completed 75 years ago can help us become more prepared for potential future missions from the way they solved those problems.”

The Manila American Cemetery and Memorial holds 17,058 service members who died

during World War II. Most of the service members lost their lives in operations in New Guinea and the Philippines.

“It’s important for us as an Air Force to remember and commemorate what has happened in our past because we are able to learn from what we’ve done and pay tribute to those who served before us,” Mayor said. “Knowing our heritage of the 317 AW and going back 75 years to celebrate how we became one unit with the 503 IR in order to retake Corregidor to take back the stronghold of Manila Bay is absolutely phenomenal.”

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KC-135

From Page 6

the air refueling track where a second wave of F-16s would arrive to practice aerial refueling during nighttime conditions.

“We refueled six to eight fighters during the day and six to eight at night,” said Staff Sgt. Michael Jordan, an instructor boom operator from the 6th OG. “We were able to maximize our training, completing tasks 50 percent faster than we normally do.”

After refueling the second wave of F-16s, the KC-135 would land at Kelly Field and debrief the day’s sortie with the crew and plan for the next day of flying operations. Three aircraft maintenance Airmen from the 6th AMXS were part of crew DREW211 to repair any

deficiencies with the aircraft and prepare it for each day’s sortie.

“As flying crew chiefs, we inspect the aircraft and provide maintenance support while it’s on the road,” said Tech. Sgt. Patrick Balu, a flying crew chief from the 6th AMXS. “Sometimes, we have minor issues with the aircraft and when these systems go bad, we fix them by referencing our technical orders or calling back to home station and following through.”

Working closely with the instructor pilots of the 182nd FS, DREW211 supported the completion of aerial refueling training for 18 F-16 students and the requalification of 15 F-16 instructor pilots.

“We were also able to accomplish fighter air refueling qualifications for our four mission certification training boom operators and qualify one of our aircraft commander upgrade

candidates for his check ride,” said Wojtkiewicz. “During normal operations, this amount of training would take up to two months to accomplish.”

Before departing Kelly Field to return to MacDill AFB, the crew invited eleven students from the Career Enlisted Aviator Center of Excellence at Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland to tour the KC-135 aircraft. These Airmen graduated the Enlisted Aircrew Undergraduate Course and begun their Basic Boom Operator Course where they will soon be flying on KC-135s as boom operators.

“We were able to mentor these students, answer their questions and impress upon them the responsibilities they would soon hold as boom operators and generally grow their excitement for the jobs they were about to learn,” Wojtkiewicz said.

Generators

From Page 3

Innovation Research funding. After receiving the contract, Scaled Power assessed the feasibility of the project and developed a generator prototype by combining one of their previously developed turbine engines with commercially available generator components.

“At its conclusion, Scaled Power promises to deliver a lightweight 30kW powered turbine engine generator with multi-stack capabilities that

take up one pallet position, improves reliability, takes multiple fuel sources, and it’s able to start, stop, and operate at sea level with no degradation of power output, among other military specifications,” said Maj. Roy Jefferson, U.S. Air Force Expeditionary Center logistics branch chief. “This and other initiatives across the service are an attempt to modernize an already atrophied strategic force.”

The mobile power generator project is a three-phase project that should complete sometime in 2024 with a total estimated RDT&E cost of \$3.3 million.

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Ellington

From Page 2

nearly 30 years until it popped up in 1987 as “Dance Concerts California, 1958,” one installment in a 10-part set titled, “The Private Collection.” The set was licensed by The Duke’s son, Mercer, who died in 1996 after following in his father’s footsteps as a musician and composer.

Because Ellington’s 1958 show at Travis contained 37 titles in two sets during a four-hour period, the live album is a collection of highlights from the night. Its tracks have appeared in a variety of formats throughout the years, including compact disc, audio cassette, vinyl record and streaming platforms.

Ellington played some of his signature tunes that night, such as “The Mooch” and “Autumn Leaves.” The crowd cheers and claps throughout, with Ellington introducing band members and song titles.

At the conclusion of “Sophisticated Lady,” he tells the crowd, “You’ve been so wonderful, so inspiring, that we have to grant your wish by giving you a coffee break.”

“That was ‘Take the ‘A’ Train’ and you were bouncing,” he says after perhaps the best-known composition of his career.

According to David Palmquist, an Ellington aficionado in British Columbia, Canada, who hosts a slate of websites dedicated to chronicling Ellington’s career and recordings in detail, the 1958 gig comes during what he calls “Ellington’s mature period,” his age just shy of 60.

Many of his band members appearing that night had played with him for decades, such as saxophonists Harry Carney and Russell Procope, as well as trumpeters Harold “Shorty” Baker and Clark Terry. Terry later went on to a prolific solo career of his own.

The show came during a late-career renaissance for Ellington, sparked by a 1956 appearance at the Newport Jazz Festival in Rhode Island. A tenor saxophone solo by Paul Gonsalves, who also appeared at the 1958 Travis show, drove the crowd into a frenzy. Excitement about the performance, captured in The Duke’s 1956 album “Ellington at Newport,” landed him on the cover of Time



Courtesy Image

One of the covers for jazz pianist Duke Ellington’s “The Private Collection, Vol. 2: Dance Concerts, California, 1958” album. The record, first released in 1987, was recorded March 4, 1958, at Travis Air Force Base, California.

magazine and started a late-career resurgence in popularity.

“Would they have made it without Newport? Of course,” Palmquist said. “Ellington was a genius surrounded by his side-men, most of them musical geniuses, and his incredible collaborator, Billy Strayhorn.”

The 1958 Travis appearance kicks off a three-night run of weeknight shows at Air Force bases in Northern California. Ellington followed the Travis show with a performance March 5, 1958, at Mather Air

Force Base, an installation near Sacramento which closed in 1993, and concluded the trio of shows March 6, 1958, at Hamilton Air Force Base, California, which was inactivated in 1973, decommissioned in 1974 and operated by the Army from 1983 to 1988.

The three shows were booked as dances.

“Ellington liked playing dances for the effect they had on his band, but I don’t think he cared if they were on bases or elsewhere,” Palmquist said. “Sometimes he would play a base two nights in a row, one for the ranks, the next for officers, or vice versa.”

The contract for the trio of 1958 Northern California shows was signed by Jerry Perenchio, a young second lieutenant and Air Force pilot. It was among his first forays into promoting and recruiting talent. Later, he joined talent giant MCA and went on to become chairman and CEO of Univision. Perenchio died in 2017.

According to one of Palmquist’s sites, “The Duke Where and When,” Ellington and his band were paid \$750 per show for the three 1958 shows in Northern California, with half

upfront and the other half in cash during intermission of the two sets. Palmquist said this figure is lower than some of Ellington’s other fees for the era. Two college dates that month that were \$1,500 and \$2,000, respectively.

“Maybe there were other considerations not shown in the contracts – perhaps free on-base room and board and maybe military transport from base to base, saving the cost of hiring buses and making it more economical to perform for a lower fee, but this is pure speculation on my part,” Palmquist said.

While details of those sort may be lost to time, the record of the performance endures. As the show draws to a close, Ellington addresses the crowd near the conclusion of “Oh! Lady Be Good.”

“Gentlemen, we certainly want to thank you for the wonderful way you’ve inspired us this evening,” Ellington said. “You’re very beautiful, very sweet, very gracious, very generous and we do love you madly. As we say goodnight, we want to give you our best wishes. Hope we’ll have this pleasure again some time soon. Thank you. Thank you.”



DOUBLE DUTY

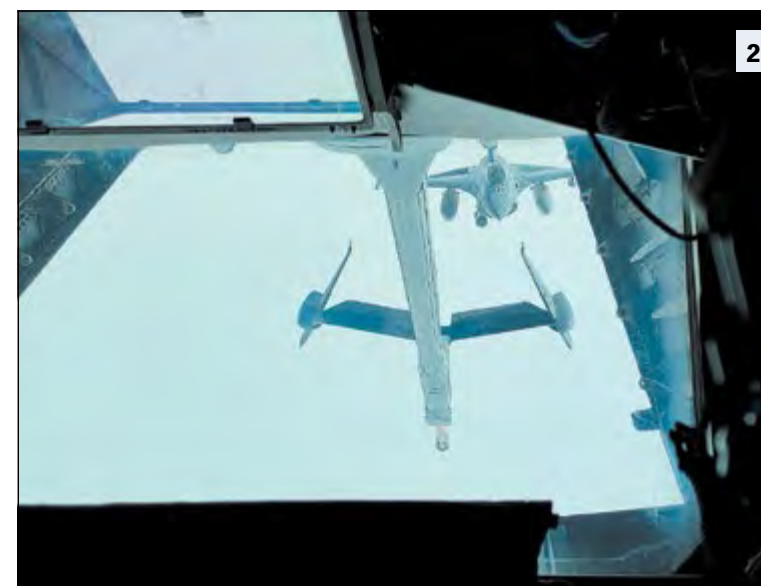
KC-10 performs flyover, refuels F-16s

U.S. Air Force photos by Tech. Sgt. Traci Keller

1) An F-16 Fighting Falcon approaches the boom of a KC-10 Extender Feb. 15 over Colorado. The KC-10 and three F-16s from Buckley AFB, Colorado, performed a flyover during an NHL hockey game at the U.S. Air Force Academy’s Falcon Stadium in Colorado Springs, Colorado.

The Colorado Avalanche hosted the Los Angeles Kings for the 2020 Navy Federal Credit Union Stadium Series.

2) An F-16 approaches the boom of a KC-10 Feb. 15 over Colorado. 3) A KC-10 aircrew taxis prior to takeoff from the flight line Feb. 15 at Travis Air Force Base, California.



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