



**TW**



# SCIENTIST

... gets hands-on look at innovation

PAGES  
16-17

# Turn fitness demands into an opportunity

Commentary by  
Col. Sean P. Pierce  
446TH AIRLIFT WING

JOINT BASE LEWIS-McChord, Wash. — Turning fitness from an obligation into a privilege changed my life.

In college, I ran endurance track and, over the years, I would work out three times a week thinking that was enough to do well on the Air Force's fit test. Turns out, as I got older, that wasn't enough. After struggling to pass a test, I decided to change how I approached fitness, incorporating it into my life again through endurance competitions.

Through signing up for a triathlon and setting goals, I found my fitness voice. Setting a goal, a benchmark, and preparing for competing changed my life. Instead of just conditioning for the fit test, I now view it as part of my lifestyle.

I'd like to encourage you to find an activity you enjoy in life, something that lights a spark and inspires you to incorporate fitness into your life completely. Carving out time to train is difficult, but for me, it's my sanctuary and despite the operations tempo, I remain committed.

Although June was Men's Health Month, it's important to highlight the facts year round. The life expectancy for men in

## Commander's Commentary

The United States is about five years shorter than for women. Many men visit their healthcare providers less frequently than women. One in three American men suffers from a condition related to cardiovascular disease, and cardiovascular disease is the leading cause of death for men.

Just days before the competition, Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. David L. Goldfein visited McChord Field, and I was able to get a photo with him holding my Air Force triathlon team jersey

for the Armed Forces Triathlon Championship. The team won a silver medal and I'm very proud. Being able to compete as part of the Air Force was a true accomplishment.

During a speech at the Warrior Games opening ceremony June 2, the general discussed how over time, we grow older, not all of us grow stronger.

"There's this old saying, 'Age wrinkles the body but quitting wrinkles the soul,'" said Goldfein. "And while all of us grow older, not all of us grow stronger as we age. The athletes and warriors we celebrate this week show us how to grow stronger over time as they conquer the daily challenges in mind, in

body, in spirit. Warrior Games athletes are not defined by illness, injury or the invisible wounds of war. They're defined by their courage, their determination, their grit, their resilience and their friends and family who cheer them on here and at home."

His comments really resonated with me, as well as the commitment of wounded warriors to continue to incorporate fitness into their lives through competitive athletic events.

Incorporating fitness in your life now will really benefit you in your later years and improve your quality of life. Being active will enable you to live longer, and fitness is a key to good health.

# Differences in sorrow: One year in Honor Guard

Commentary by  
Airman 1st Class Nicolas Z. Erwin  
28TH BOMB WING PUBLIC AFFAIRS

## Enlisted Commentary

ELLSWORTH AIR FORCE BASE, S.D. — "On behalf of the president of the United States, the United States Air Force and a grateful nation, please accept this flag as a symbol of our appreciation of your loved one's honorable and faithful service."

These words hold weight heavier than any munition or military aircraft. These are the final words a family hears once their fallen loved one is given a funeral with military honors.

Throughout the first 19 years of my life, I never witnessed a funeral.

All that would change when I signed my name on the dotted line to commit to serving as an Ellsworth Air Force Base honor guardsman.

My 183-day honor guard commitment began with an initial two-week training period relearning drill movements, commands and memorizing three creeds that I've repeated 86 times at ceremonies. After graduating the training class, I represented the base at 12 retirement ceremonies, two changes of command and other miscellaneous events.

Most importantly was the

progressive understanding and execution of funerals.

Our first lesson was the importance of remaining stoic; we will never show emotion during a funeral. The funeral was possibly the last remnant of the military a grieving family would see, and we wanted them to see Airmen as professional and committed to highest standards of excellence

I never really understood that mentality until December 2017. I was standing in 10 inches of snow as a car drifted slowly through an open field littered with tombstones. There were only two cars: the hearse carrying the funeral director and the pastor inside and the daughter of the fallen veteran's car.

In a blizzard, the veteran's daughter drove 70 miles from Scenic, South Dakota, population 50, to watch her father be given military funeral honors. In that moment, I realized one thing: a funeral wasn't the final goodbye I thought it was.

A funeral isn't a fleeting moment, or the last time a spouse would think of their lover. It wouldn't be the final time triplets would think of their mother. It was a moment that meant a family didn't let someone fade into the past.

In less than six months of serving as an honor guardsman, I witnessed and participated in 18 funerals all over

See ERWIN Page 30

# Mail center watches out for base security

Heide Couch  
60TH AIR MOBILITY WING PUBLIC AFFAIRS

On a normal day, the 60th Force Support Squadron Official Mail Center is responsible for receiving, processing, controlling and sending administrative communications, as well as preparing mail for dispatch to Travis Air Force Base, California, the U.S. Postal Service and for commercial delivery.

The OMC is located at building 243, which also houses the 60th Communications Squadron.

With Travis serving as Air Mobility Command's largest installation, as well as hosting David Grant USAF Medical Center, the Air Force's flagship medical facility, the mission of the OMC is essential to keeping base operations functional as the unit processes an average of 1,800 to 2,500 pounds of packages and official mail each week.

The OMC also serves as the first line of defense for the base when it comes to ensuring mail is secure. The small contingency of Airmen working at the facility are trained to identify suspicious packages by utilizing special equipment to check for contraband, radiation, asbestos or chemicals that could be harmful to recipients.

"We check all mail parcels whether they are envelopes, packages or boxes," said Airman 1st Class Lisa Robinson, an OMC administrator. "The X-ray machine allows us to take a glimpse inside of packages to check for threats. There's also the Hardened Mobile Trace Detector, a device that we use to check for explosives."

This training was put into effect when Robinson inspected the daily influx of packages that arrived the morning of March 18.

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Staff Sgt. Brandi Alexander, 60th Force Support Squadron, serves customers at the front desk of the 60 FSS Official Mail Center, May 5 at Travis Air Force Base, Calif. The 60 FSS OMC is responsible for processing mail for Travis AFB, David Grant USAF Medical Center, and commercial company deliveries.

U.S. Air Force photo/Heide Couch

## Tailwind

Travis AFB, Calif.  
60th Air Mobility Wing

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60th Air Mobility Wing commander

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Visit the Travis public web site at http://www.travis.af.mil. Read the Tailwind online at http://tailwind.dailyrepublic.net or by accessing the Travis SharePoint.

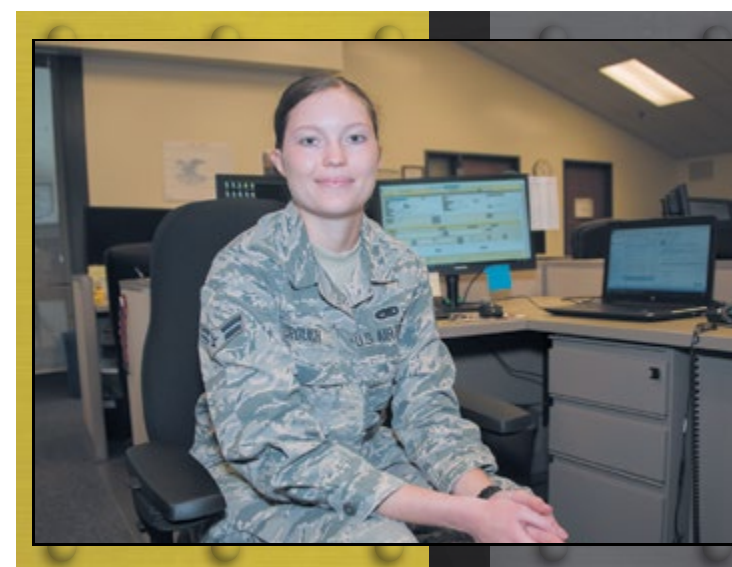
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## On the cover

Dr. Richard Joseph, Chief Scientist of the United States Air Force, uses a laser July 12 during his visit to Travis Air Force Base, Calif.

U.S. Air Force photo/Louis Briscose



U.S. Air Force photo/Heide Couch

## WARRIOR OF THE WEEK

### Name:

Airman 1st Class Sarah Mikayla Crouch.

### Unit:

60th Maintenance Group.

### Duty title:

C-5 Aircraft Maintenance Unit dedicated analyst.

### Hometown:

Clovis, California.

### Time in service:

One year.

### Family:

Single.

### What are your goals?

To continue her education and eventually get accepted to Reserve

Officers' Training Corps and become an Air Force officer.

### What are your hobbies?

Going camping and skiing with friends.

### What is your greatest achievement?

Completed Community College of the Air Force and got selected for senior airman below the zone.



U.S. Air Force photo/Tech. Sgt. Joseph Swafford

**U.S. Airmen and Soldiers transport an injured Afghan National Defense and Security Forces soldier, who sustained trauma from a gunshot, to the Craig Joint Theater Hospital for surgery Sept. 26, 2015, at Bagram Airfield, Afghanistan. The CJTH provides surgical capabilities in trauma, general surgery, orthopedics, neurosurgery, urology, vascular surgery and otolaryngology, all of which are critical to helping 98 percent of patients who come to the hospital survive their injuries.**

## We keep 'em movin', we keep 'em livin'

**Commentary by  
Capt. Christina Hewett**

349TH AEROMEDICAL STAGING  
SQUADRON NURSE

**B**AGRAM AIRFIELD, Afghanistan — Our En Route Patient Staging System motto has been “We keep 'em movin'.” This we proudly chant at role calls and our wing command events back at Travis.

However, upon boots to sand in April 2018 at the Craig Joint Theater Hospital, Bagram Airfield, Afghanistan, our team of 16 from the 349th Aeromedical Staging Squadron, quickly learned that this motto was only part of the mission and only part of why our role was so vital in the deployed environment.

### Commentary

In only a few weeks we had learned more about our mission, our team and ourselves. These lessons were invaluable and have guided us to a better understanding of the deployed environment and the true meaning of “I will never leave an Airman behind.”

This was my first deployment so my expectations were the result of stories from other deployed USAF members and from what I saw on television. The real thing was nothing like those stories.

After being there for 15 days, I was part of one of the largest mass casualty events

Bagram has seen in a while. We all donned our Interceptor Multi-Threat Body Armor and waited in the hot morning sun.

We waited on the ramp that connects the hospital to the flight line for the medical evacuation helicopter to arrive with what we thought would be nine patients. We heard the angst in the voices coming over the radio, ground forces were still taking fire and it was not safe to land. We waited some more. I knew in my gut that day was a milestone event for me.

The ERPSS team was ready at the ramp and knew that soon, we will receive soldiers injured in the preservation of peace in Afghanistan. I was part of a team

who received the first litter and the first patient from the helicopter. We transferred our patient to the NATO gurney and wheeled towards the next team for a quick weapons safety check as the ERPSS team cut away clothing and checked for emergent injuries. A patient trauma name was assigned, and I glanced back to see the remaining ERPSS team, EMS team, and volunteers lined up getting patient after patient after patient. I quickly understood that our original count of nine patients had multiplied. My heart rate sped up a bit at the sense of urgency to quickly move these patients through the hospital doors. We stopped under the

See HEWITT Page 26

## AAFES ready to hit 123 years

Jessica Jones

ARMY AND AIR FORCE EXCHANGE SERVICE

The Travis Air Force Base, California, Exchange, is inviting Airmen and their families to celebrate the Army and Air Force Exchange Service's 123rd anniversary with special savings and promotions on July 25.

The Department of Defense's largest retailer was established via general orders on July 25, 1895, and has been serving the military community ever since. Throughout its history, the Exchange has worked to improve the lives of Soldiers, Airmen and their families by serving as a lifeline to America. The Exchange provides tax-free goods and services at exclusive military pricing in store and online at ShopMyExchange.com.

As part of the anniversary celebration, Travis AFB Exchange shoppers can save on a variety of promotions, including:

- A free 16-ounce coffee at Express locations on July 25.
- \$1.23 off combo meals at participating Exchange restaurants on July 25. Coupon from the Exchange sales flier required.

On July 25, 15 percent off all Exchange restaurant purchases with Military Star.

Your Travis AFB Exchange will have a family fun day July 21st 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. to our 123rd anniversary. We will have eating contests, singing contests, food trucks, bounce house and more.

For the first time, honorably discharged veterans can join in the Exchange's anniversary celebration by visiting ShopMyExchange.com for online

See AAFES Page 30

## Staff sergeants make E-6

60th Air Mobility Wing  
Public Affairs



JOINT BASE SAN ANTONIO-RANDOLPH, Texas — The Air Force has selected 8,416 staff sergeants for promotion to technical sergeant out of 27,555 eligible for a selection rate of 30.54 percent in the 18E6 promotion cycle.

Of the 8,416 selected, 19.4 percent had Promote Now recommendations, 26.1 percent had “Must Promote” recommendations and 54.3 percent had “Promote” recommendations.

Selectees' average time in grade was 4.33 years and time in service was 9.33 years. The average selectee overall score was 361.24, based on point averages of 211.03 for enlisted performance reports, 5.12 for decorations, 74.95 for the promotion fitness examination and 67.57 for the specialty knowledge test.

The technical sergeant promotion list is available on the Enlisted Promotions page of the Air Force's Personnel Center website, the Air Force Portal and myPers. Airmen can access their score notices on the virtual Military Personnel Flight via the Air Force's Personnel Center secure applications page.

Those selected will be promoted beginning Aug. 1 according to their promotion sequence number. Prior to posting the list on myPers, the Air Force's Personnel Center provided commanders, senior raters and trusted agents with advanced knowledge of their

Airmen's selection with the intention that selects be notified no earlier than one day before the public release.

For more information about Air Force personnel programs, visit the Air Force Personnel Center public website.

Congratulations to the following Travis Air Force Base, California, staff sergeants who were selected for promotion:

- |                     |                       |
|---------------------|-----------------------|
| Aaron Olinski       | Christopher Childress |
| Abel Moreno         | Christopher Haire     |
| Adam Overbay        | Christopher Herring   |
| Adrian Perez        | Christopher Moore     |
| Ahmad Buhari        | Colin Middleton       |
| Alan Williams       | Colton James          |
| Allan Flores        | Corey Andersen        |
| Andrea Butler       | Daniel Cannan         |
| Andrew Duccini      | Daniel Galvin         |
| Angel Moquete       | Daniel Moreno         |
| Anthony McDonald    | Danielle Lever        |
| Anthony Wright      | Darrell Osborne       |
| Aprille Magallanes  | David Bass            |
| Baso Harper         | David Taylor          |
| Bernie Rizzo        | Dawn Watson           |
| Bounlie Chanthapho  | Deante Lever          |
| Brad Petrujak       | Derrell Vann          |
| Bradley Riggs       | Devin Johnson         |
| Brandon Williams    | Dominic Jones         |
| Brennec Barnett     | Dominic Thibodeaux    |
| Britney Murray      | Earl Swank            |
| Candelari Gallegos  | Eddie Rios            |
| Cassand Supernault  | Erica Dixon           |
| Cesar Mardirossian  | Erick Aguilar         |
| Christopher Agbulos | Evan Schnetzler       |
| Christopher Alonzo  | Francesca Nella       |

- |                    |                   |
|--------------------|-------------------|
| Gabriel Rosario    | Melissa Rocha     |
| Gabriel Walker     | Michael Bell      |
| Gary Dale          | Michael Smith     |
| Gian Gonzalez      | Mitchell Burright |
| Glenn Walker       | Monica Tillery    |
| Gregory McClintic  | Nathan Heald      |
| Heather Myhres     | Nathaniel Hyder   |
| Heather Schrammek  | Nestor Ebuon      |
| Henry Kabiling     | Noi Moroni        |
| Holly Rose         | Paige Thiessen    |
| Jack Wells         | Patrick Pierce    |
| Jacob King         | Phillip Thompson  |
| Jaime Tovar        | Phillip Flores    |
| James Andrews      | Porscha Simpson   |
| James Supernault   | Richard Panattoni |
| Jane Cunningham    | Richard Pilarca   |
| Jasmine Sanders    | Richard Taylor    |
| Jeffrey Jordan     | Robert Hamatake   |
| Jeffrey Molinaro   | Robert Hicks      |
| Jeremy Bennett     | Robert Sombrero   |
| Jeremy Carrillo    | Robert Spencer    |
| Jesse Hansen       | Roman Rodriguez   |
| Jessica Kindinger  | Rory Kaplan       |
| John Loera         | Rory Kaplan       |
| Jonathan Mayuiers  | Ryan Sales        |
| Jose Garcia        | Ryan Sickle       |
| Jose Guitron       | Ryan Smith        |
| Joseph Laswell     | Salvador Ruiz     |
| Joseph Mcpherson   | Scott McDonough   |
| Joshua Basham      | Sean Lynn         |
| Joshua Pearson     | Shawn Machutta    |
| Keith Moore        | Shelby Reynolds   |
| Kelsey Cartmill    | Shon Shirley      |
| Kevin Dougherty    | Stephen Stafford  |
| Kevin Figueroa     | Stephon Herndon   |
| Kollin Browder     | Steven Trawick    |
| Kragen Gonzales    | Susan Gonzalez    |
| Kristen Maskell    | Theodore Takash   |
| Kristian Mandujano | Thomas Lynch      |
| Kristoph Valentine | Thomas Wilkoff    |
| Kristopher Wiggins | Timothy Clemens   |
| Kyle Hauser        | Timothy Webster   |
| Kyle Robertson     | Travis Bothast    |
| Laonardo White     | Trevor Edmundson  |
| Laura Yang         | Trevor Lopez      |
| Leng Yang          | Tyler Siebrass    |
| Luis Gonzalez      | Watson Holmes     |
| Mark Daniels       | Wilfredo Abas     |
| Mark Jenkins       | William Poska     |
| Matthew Jennings   | Willie Horton     |
| Melissa Katz       | Wykeisha Tolbert  |

## Ensure cookouts don't lead to illness

60th Medical Group  
Public Health

It's the season for barbecues, cookouts and tailgate parties, but don't get so caught up in the fun that you forget to protect yourself and those around you from commonly transmitted bacteria, parasites, viruses and toxins that can result in foodborne illness.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention estimates that approximately one in six Americans – about 48 million people – could suffer from a foodborne illness this year, resulting in roughly 128,000 hospitalizations and 3,000 deaths.

To ensure the community at Travis Air Force Base, California, enjoys a healthy, safe and active summer, public health will focus on three main topics to prevent foodborne illness: awareness and prevention, signs and symptoms and general practices for safe food handling.

**Awareness and prevention**  
Many foods contain or can

easily grow illness-causing agents such as campylobacter, E. coli, norovirus, shigella and salmonella, if not properly handled, cooked and maintained at the proper temperature. Wear gloves or use clean utensils to handle food and wash hands thoroughly – for at least 20 seconds – using an antibacterial soap.

**Signs and symptoms of foodborne illness**

- Vomiting with or without nausea.
- Diarrhea.
- Abdominal pain with or without cramps.
- Loss of appetite.
- Fever.

Seek immediate medical attention if you have any of these signs and symptoms after consuming prepared food at an event.

**General practices for safe food handling**

The Food Safety and Inspection Service recommends four basic steps to keep food safe: clean, separate, cook and chill.

See COOKOUTS Page 27

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### Elks Lodge rewards Airman



U.S. Air Force photo by Airman 1st Class Christian Conrad

Representatives from the Vacaville, Calif., chapter of the Elks Lodge present Airman Zachary Walters, 660th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron jet engine mechanic, with two Travis Air Force Base, Calif., commissary gift cards valued at \$50 each on July 18. The Elks Lodge hosts a number of charitable works in local areas around the country with the giveaway of the Commissary gift cards being just the most recent in a long string during the organization's 150-year history.

## Crew recognized for safe landing

Rita Hess

THE MOBILITY FORUM MAGAZINE

During the first-ever United States Marine Corps F-35B overseas deployment in response to North Korean threats in the Pacific Air Force region, 10 aircraft were being moved to Japan. After days of severe weather delays in Alaska, the crew of a KC-10 from the 60th Operations Group at Travis Air Force Base, California, departed in formation, but suddenly experienced total failure of the horizontal stabilizer, which precluded any ability to trim the aircraft.

While Capt. James Leli struggled to maintain aircraft control, Capt. Robert Hyatt and the remaining crew began troubleshooting the other aircraft and began dumping fuel to lighten the load for landing.

Gradually, the craft descended to a lower altitude to

conduct precautionary checks with the aircraft configured for landing. At landing speed, the increased control pressure required the pilot flying to use full strength to maintain aircraft control. This quickly resulted in fatigue, so the pilots alternated every three minutes.

Despite the serious failure, the pilots used extraordinary skill, fighting their exhaustion to coordinate a successful precision approach and landing on a snow-covered runway at Elmendorf Air Force Base, Alaska. The crew then used superior skill, judgment and airmanship to recover their crippled KC-10 to a safe landing.

Everyone on board performed meritoriously. They maintained composure, calmly managing emergency checklists. They communicated with each other, with others in the

See LANDING Page 23

### Wings team up for delivery to Pacific



U.S. Air Force photo/Tech. Sgt. Christopher Carranza

Master Sgt. Joseph Stein, 349th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron production supervisor, walks between cargo in a C-5M Super Galaxy July 15 at Travis Air Force Base, Calif. The mission to the Pacific was generated by the 349th AMXS and flown by the 22nd Airlift Squadron, in which more than 133,000 pounds of logistics will be delivered.

## Air Force updates dress, appearance

Secretary of the Air Force Public Affairs

WASHINGTON — The Air Force announced a series of uniform updates to Air Force Instruction 36-2903, Dress and Personal Appearance of Air Force Personnel, effective July 13.

“These changes stemmed from the 100th Air Force Uniform Board, which incorporated direct feedback from Airmen,” said Lt. Gen. Gina Grosso, Deputy Chief of Staff, Manpower, Personnel, and Services. “There are additional Uniform Board initiatives that are ongoing and still being analyzed for consideration and implementation by senior leaders.”

The notable changes are, but not limited to:

#### Grooming and appearance standards

- No minimum hair length for females, but up to a maximum bulk of 3.5 inches from scalp, allowing for proper wear of headgear.
- Females are also authorized locs, which must be lightly fused or interwoven to present a neat, professional appearance.

#### Dress uniform

- All enlisted personnel may wear 3.5-inch or 4-inch chevrons.
- All or some ribbons and

devices may be worn on service dress uniform.

- All, some or no ribbons and devices may be worn on blue service uniform.

#### Outer garments, headgear, rank insignia and accessories

• While off duty in civilian clothes, males are authorized to wear earrings on or off installation.

• Females are authorized to wear round or square white diamond, gold, white pearl or silver earrings as a set with any uniform combination.

• Eyeglasses and sunglasses may have a small logo that can contrast with frame color or lenses. Conservative, clear, slightly tinted or photosensitive lenses are also authorized.

• Airmen may wear either a sling style backpack or two strap backpack.

• Handbags for all uniform combinations will be solid black leather or vinyl without ornamentation, with black or white stitching.

#### Physical training gear

• Short- and long-sleeved solid white, black or light gray form fitting undershirts may be worn and visible under the short-sleeved shirt.

• A balaclava (black) may now be worn with PT gear while performing physical fitness activities outdoors.



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# KC-46 completes testing, October delivery set



Courtesy photo

Chief of Staff of the Air Force Gen. David L. Goldfein visits Boeing Field near Seattle, Wash., where the KC-46 Pegasus tanker is under development. The KC-46 program achieved an important milestone July 6 at Boeing Field with completion of the final flight tests required for first aircraft delivery to the U.S. Air Force.

### Secretary of the Air Force Public Affairs

WASHINGTON — The KC-46 Pegasus program achieved an important milestone July 6 at Boeing Field, Seattle, with completion of the final flight tests required for first aircraft delivery planned in late October.

The integrated Air Force and Boeing test team completed all required test points for the Remote Vision System and for receiver certifications of the F-16 Fighting Falcon and C-17 Globemaster III. These two receivers, coupled with testing completed in June of KC-135 Stratotanker refueling the KC-46 as a receiver, are the minimum required for delivery.

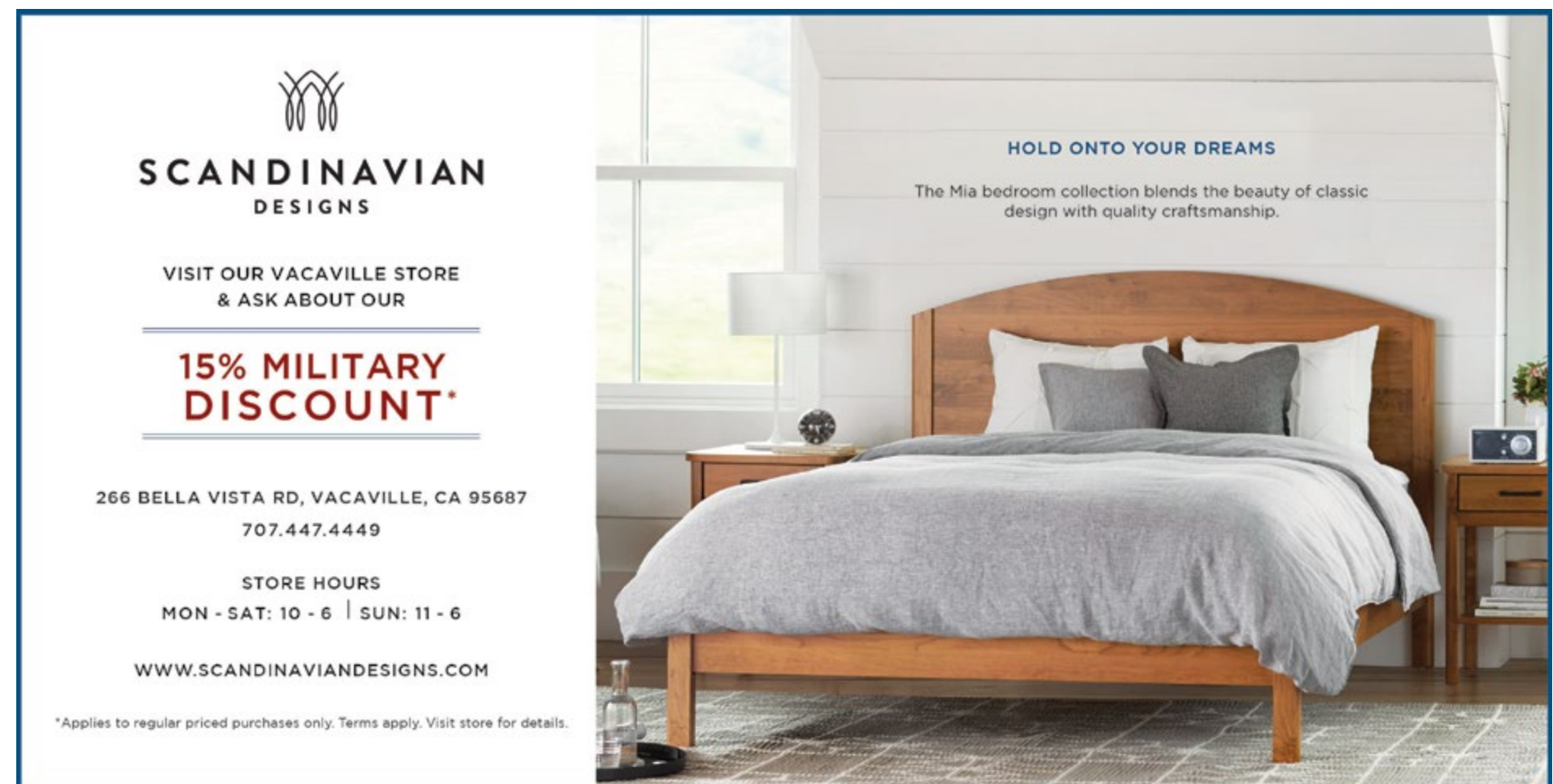
“With this milestone complete, the test program has demonstrated a level of maturity that positions Boeing to deliver, and the Air Force to accept, an aircraft by the end of October 2018,” said Dr. Will Roper, the Air Force service acquisition executive.

The KC-46 test program is

now transitioning to follow-on receiver aircraft testing and certifications required for operational testing starting in 2019.

On June 4, Chief of Staff of the Air Force Gen. David Goldfein met with the men and women testing the KC-46 at Boeing Field to witness their hard work firsthand. While flying on a scheduled KC-46 test mission, Goldfein flew the aircraft and its boom in between test points, and observed C-17 receiver aircraft certification testing.

“It was a pleasure to fly the KC-46, an aircraft that will enhance our lethality and global warfighting capabilities,” said Goldfein. After the recent test point completion, he added, “I am encouraged by the team’s progress in putting another significant milestone behind us. The collective Air Force, Boeing, Federal Aviation Administration, and Defense Contract Management Agency team is laser-focused on the remainder of activities needed to certify and accept this much-needed tanker in late October.”



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U.S. Air Force photo

A team of en route maintenance Airmen converged from multiple locations as part of a Maintenance Recovery Team, returning a C-17 Globemaster III aircraft back to the mobility fleet from a forward deployed location in Southwest Asia.

## En-route maintenance team propels mission

### U.S. Air Force Expeditionary Center

JOINT BASE MCGUIRE-DIX-LAKEHURST, N.J. — A team of en route maintenance Airmen recently converged from multiple locations as part of a Maintenance Recovery Team, returning a C-17 Globemaster III aircraft back to the mobility fleet from a forward deployed location in Southwest Asia.

Maintenance professionals identified repairs to the aircraft that required additional parts and maintenance personnel beyond what was available at the forward deployed location.

“This was a unique event where multiple squadrons worked together to repair an aircraft in an expeditionary environment, showing the true capability of the en route system – to rapidly respond, overcome challenging maintenance issues and environments, and return an aircraft to the fight,” said Capt. Alexandra Gegen, 8th Expeditionary Air Mobility Squadron’s assistant director of operations.

Within 24 hours, the 521st Air Mobility Operations Wing, headquartered at Ramstein Air Base, Germany, rapidly channeled and assembled the

necessary aircraft parts and the MRT personnel comprised of five aircraft maintainers from the 721st Aircraft Maintenance Squadron at Ramstein, three maintainers from the 8th EAMS’ main deployment location, and an additional three maintainers from an 8th EAMS’ detachment location.

Along with the C-17’s dedicated flying crew chief, Staff Sgt. Alan Morris, from the 305th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron at Joint Base-McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst, N.J., the team worked shoulder to shoulder, replacing one of the aircraft’s engines and an integrated flight control module.

“I was extremely impressed at how well this engine change went, especially considering we had Airmen from four different bases who had never worked together before,” said Master Sgt. Reliot Rodriguez, 8th EAMS production superintendent. “It is a true testament to the outstanding caliber of maintainers we have across the Air Force.”

Capt. Ryan Huff, 721st AMXS aircraft maintenance unit officer in charge, explained further.

“Bringing together assets from three locations, from two continents, across two wings

See MISSION Page 27

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# Air Force seeks Sijan award nominations

**Richard Salomon**  
AIR FORCE PERSONNEL CENTER

JOINT BASE SAN ANTONIO-RANDOLPH, Texas — Air Force officials are accepting nominations for the 2018 Lance P. Sijan Leadership Award through Aug. 31.

The award recognizes the accomplishments of officers and enlisted Airmen who demonstrate the highest qualities of leadership in the performance of their duties and conduct of their lives.

Sijan was a 1965 Air Force Academy graduate and combat pilot who was posthumously awarded the Medal of Honor for his courage while

evading capture by the North Vietnamese and during his subsequent captivity as Prisoner of War.

The award period is July 1, 2017, to June 30. Organizations and base-level personnel should contact their respective major command, combatant command, field operating agency, direct reporting unit or MAJCOM/COCOM equivalent for applicable suspense dates and additional nomination procedures.

Each MAJCOM, COCOM, FOA and DRU may submit one individual in each of the following four categories:

- Senior officer (major

See **SIJAN** Page 30



U.S. Air Force photo/Andrew C. Patterson

**Gen. Mike Holmes, commander of Air Combat Command, presents the 24th Air Force guidon to Maj. Gen. Robert Skinner, who assumed command of the 24th Air Force during a ceremony July 17 at Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland, Texas. Twenty-Fourth Air Force was reassigned to a new major command and welcomed Skinner during the ceremony.**

## 24th Air Force joins ACC

**Tech. Sgt. R.J. Biermann**  
AIR FORCES CYBER PUBLIC AFFAIRS

JOINT BASE SAN ANTONIO-LACKLAND, Texas — Twenty-Fourth Air Force was reassigned to a new major command and welcomed a new commander during a ceremony, July 17 at Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland, Texas.

During the ceremony, 24th Air Force moved from Air Force Space Command to Air Combat Command. Generals Jay Raymond, AFSPC commander, and Mike Holmes, ACC commander, presided over the ceremony.

The move was directed to realign the 24th Air Force cyber operations and 25th Air Force intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance missions under the same command; all to “drive faster decisions as we fight,” said Secretary of the Air Force Heather Wilson, in a June 7 statement.

“If we’re going to compete, deter and win on the international stage, we must think of every domain as coequal and interdependent,” said Holmes.

“This co-dependence and equality may be even more important in competition, and the transfer of 24th Air Force is a step on that path that will offer additional options for our warfighters and national leaders.”

The transfer will optimize multi-domain integration of cyber capabilities and effects in support of Air Force core missions. The new construct will improve the Air Force’s ability to organize, train, and equip cyber forces in presentation to and support of Air Force component commanders and combatant commanders.

As part of the ceremony, Maj. Gen. Chris Weggeman also relinquished command of 24th Air Force to Maj. Gen. Robert Skinner.

During his tenure, Weggeman oversaw the achievement of full operational capability of all Air Force Cyber Mission Force teams more than four months early, completing a major milestone for U.S. Cyber Command.

For his leadership, Raymond presented Weggeman the Distinguished Service Medal,

after which Weggeman credited his success to his Airmen.

“To the Airmen of Air Forces Cyber...thank you,” said Weggeman. “You’ve shattered my every expectation and I am so inspired and proud of who you are and what you have accomplished. You are a globally recognized, battle-tempered and proven warfighter, maneuver and effects force. You were charged to compete, deter and win, in, through and from cyberspace, and (you did).”

Weggeman is departing for ACC to become the special assistant to the commander. Skinner hails from AFSPC, where he was the deputy commander.

“Our task is to dominate the cyber domain, with trained and ready forces, and deter and defeat our enemies in any multi-domain operation,” said Skinner. “Much like our predecessors, we will continue to push the envelope with smart, risk-taking, bold and innovative leaders at all levels continually increasing our warfighter readiness and lethality. That is the only way to ensure

See **24TH AF** Page 24



U.S. Air Force photo/Staff Sgt. Angela Ruiz

**Colombian Air Force Staff Sgt. Johan Lopez Ramirez, Kfir fighter jet crew chief, conducts a pre-flight inspection on a Colombian Kfir fighter jet July 7 at Davis-Monthan Air Force Base, Ariz. Six Colombian Kfirs from the Combat Squadron No. 111 arrived to train with the 354th Fighter Squadron’s A-10 Thunderbolt IIs and the 162nd Wing’s F-16s in preparation for Red Flag 18-3.**

## Colombians train with A-10, F-16

**Staff Sgt. Angela Ruiz**  
12TH AIR FORCE (AIR FORCES SOUTHERN)  
PUBLIC AFFAIRS

DAVIS-MONTHAN AIR FORCE BASE, Ariz. — Six Colombian air force Kfir fighter jets on their way to Red Flag 18-3 at Nellis Air Force Base, Nevada, stopped at Davis-Monthan AFB from July 5-16, to train with A-10 Thunderbolt IIs and F-16 Fighting Falcons.

Red Flag is the U.S. Air Force’s premier air-to-air combat training exercise that is hosted at the Nevada Test and Training Range. Red Flag 18-3 will provide the Colombian air force the experience of multiple, intensive air combat sorties in the safe training environment with the U.S. Air Force.

“This week is very important here at Davis-Monthan Air Force Base because our pilots and aircrew can train alongside members of the United States Air Force, which allows a better training environment for all,” said Colombian air force Brig. Gen. Pablo Garcia, Aerial Combat Command 1 commander.

The Colombian air force sent

130 personnel to support the six Colombian Kfirs fighter jets and one Colombian air force 767 Multi-Mission Tanker Transport Jupiter. While at Davis-Monthan AFB, the Kfirs flew air-to air combat training missions with A-10 Thunderbolt IIs from the 354th Fighter Squadron “the Bulldogs” and F-16 Fighting Falcons from Arizona Air National Guard’s 162nd Wing.

“It was amazing training, an amazing warm up before Red Flag,” said Colombian air force Maj. Freddy Figueroa, 111th Fighter Squadron commander. “We are very proud, it was a very high honor to fly with the bulldogs, with the vipers.”

U.S. Air Force Lt. Col. Julian Pachecho, 162nd Fighter Wing alert commander, has been the Colombian country manager for the 162nd Wing for the last eight years. He worked directly with them in preparation for Red Flag 18-3.

“I actually helped them train for their first trip to Red Flag in 2012. Over the last nine months I’ve made another three trips down to Colombia,” Pachecho

said. “I think the Colombians are a hard-working force and I look forward to seeing their success in Red Flag.”

During the Colombian air force’s time at Davis-Monthan AFB, they visited 12th Air Force (Air Forces Southern), met with 12th AF (AFSOUTH) commander Lt. Gen. Mark Kelly, and partner nation liaison officers from Colombia, Brazil, Chile and Argentina.

“I was lucky enough to fly with the squadron when I visited Palanquero (Colombia) back in March,” said U.S. Air Force Lt. Gen. Mark Kelly, 12th Air Force (Air Forces Southern) commander. “When I flew with them they were ready for Red Flag and this visit gets them even more ready and more confident, they are very ready and very prepared.”

Twelfth Air Force (Air Forces Southern) is the air and space component to U.S. Southern Command, and conducts security cooperation and provides air, space and cyberspace capabilities throughout the 31 nations of Latin America and the Caribbean.

# Defenders go mobile with comm system

**Samuel King Jr.**  
TEAM EGLIN PUBLIC AFFAIRS

EGLIN AIR FORCE BASE, Fla. — Thanks to a recent innovative idea, the 96th Test Wing’s support and defense unit became its latest developmental test squadron.

The 96th Security Forces Squadron Airmen began using a new communication system in their patrol cars called the Android Tactical Assault Kit in June. The squadron is the first large security forces unit to use the system solely for a base defense mission. Word spread fast across defense channels about the capabilities and ease of use. Soon, the 96th

SFS became the testing area for what could become a new Air Force-wide base defense communication platform.

The Air Force Research Lab-created system, which operates on electronic tablets, delivers real-time visual communication and mapping that provides defenders almost immediate situational awareness. This instant information is available to defenders on patrol, at an emergency or at the command and control hub, known as the base defense operations center.

The ATAK works via cellular communication, GPS and a base network, managed by the

See **SYSTEM** Page 22

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# Joint exercise enhances EOD training at MacDill

**Airman 1st Class Scott Warner**

6TH AIR MOBILITY WING PUBLIC AFFAIRS

MACDILL AIR FORCE BASE, Fla. — For the first time, the 6th Civil Engineer Squadron Explosive Ordnance Disposal flight at MacDill Air Force Base, Florida, used its semiannual training as the foundation for something more.

The 927th Aeromedical Staging Squadron, Joint Communication Support Element and the U.S. Army's 5th General Support Aviation Battalion from Clearwater, Florida, joined the EOD team July 2 for a joint, total-force training exercise.

"The purpose of this training exercise is to certify medics, pilots and our EOD technicians for deployment," said U.S. Air Force Staff Sgt. John Barr, NCO in charge of EOD training. "More importantly, it's to give everyone involved more experience on what to expect in a combat situation."

During the exercise, all units reacted to simulated improvised explosive devices as well as combat and medical scenarios.

The 927th ASTS added the Tactical Combat Care Course to the training exercise with expert instructors and even medical manikins capable of speaking and bleeding to simulate real



U.S. Air Force photo/Airman 1st Class Scott Warner

**Tech. Sgt. Michael Sweeney, NCO in charge of explosive ordnance disposal operations assigned to the 6th Civil Engineer Squadron, probes for a simulated improvised explosive device July 2 at MacDill Air Force Base, Fla. Sweeney investigated the ground after using a mine detector that picked up a foreign metallic signature during a joint, total-force training exercise preparing members for combat scenarios.**

battlefield injuries.

"I enjoyed the new training elements with the medical manikins," said Senior Airman Taylor Lahteine, 6th CES EOD technician. "Receiving the training our medics go through makes

me more confident for if I ever need to provide self-aid/buddy care to someone who is injured."

Lahteine explained seeing the simulated patient being airlifted by the U.S. Army's 5th GSAB medics, pilots and UH-60

Black Hawk also provided a beneficial training element he had never seen before.

JCSE's medical operations experts also joined to improve interoperability and consistency during training that will

ultimately strengthen deployed warfighters.

"Every branch of service trains in its own way," said Master Sgt. Michael Abesada, NCO in charge of medical operations assigned to JCSE. "However, in the outcome that determines if someone lives or dies, having continuity in our training ensures that anyone who is deployed will be proficient and ready when counted on the most."

MacDill EOD technicians learned far more than IED detection and disposal training. They also rehearsed reaction-to-fire combat engagement drills, troop leading procedures and tactical combat care.

"The training here is based off of our intel section pulling EOD-specific occurrences from past missions to best recreate real situations our troops might encounter," said Barr.

Overall, the exercise enabled a joint, total-force team to train like they fight.

"My goal is to keep growing our training exercises to incorporate more aspects and combat units to mirror battlefield situations," said Barr. "I think this is especially important because working and collaborating with other branches of service is the way now and into the future."

## Council proves category management saves funds

**Vicki Stein**

AIR FORCE INSTALLATION AND MISSION SUPPORT CENTER PUBLIC AFFAIRS

JOINT BASE SAN ANTONIO-LACKLAND, Texas — The Security and Protection Category Council has been busy saving the Air Force millions of dollars and fine tuning contracting processes using a structured approach called category management.

Established in January 2017, the council has concentrated its efforts on strategically analyzing and managing spending to reduce total cost of ownership.

The council has reduced duplication of efforts and leveraged "buying as one" spending for

five Air Force-wide contracts, resulting in \$10 million in rate and process savings.

Scott Heise, council director assigned to the Air Force Security Forces Center, said a new contract for M9 and M4 targets provides ready-to-use targets and is an excellent example of category management success.

Previously, Air Force combat arms personnel were requisitioning blank silhouette targets through the supply system and then spending 4,600 hours per year hand-drawing circles to make them ready for the Air Force qualification course. By utilizing category management

**See COUNCIL Page 26**

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# Top scientist visits Travis



**1) Dr. Richard J. Joseph, Chief Scientist of the United States Air Force, listens to Lt. Col. Leonardo Tato, David Grant USAF Medical Center, speak July 12 about medical innovations developed at the facility during a visit to Travis Air Force Base, Calif.**

U.S. Air Force photo/Heide Couch

**Airman 1st Class Jonathon D. A. Carnell**

60TH AIR MOBILITY WING PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Dr. Richard J. Joseph, U.S. Air Force chief scientist, along with colleague Donna C. Senft, Air Mobility Command chief scientist, toured July 11 and 12 at Travis Air Force Base, California, to experience innovation at the base level.

Joseph and his team went to David Grant USAF Medical Center, the 60th Aerial Port Squadron and attended a “Think Tank” session with Travis’ Phoenix Spark Program, which is an innovation program designed to deliver tomorrow’s tools to the warfighter today.

“Many Airmen think of innovation as something that has to change the entire Air Force,” said Joseph. “Really though, it can be any idea which can make the Air Force and its mission easier.”

“Travis’ Phoenix Spark Program is inspirational. It has made Airmen all around the Air Force understand that they can make an impact. In just a few minutes talking to Airmen, you realize just how high a quality of people are serving our nation and are making that impact.”

During the past year, the Phoenix Spark Program developed and improved on 3-D printing, mounted electronic flight bag holders, laser paint removal and night-vision goggles, which are just some of the 50 projects currently being refined to enhance mission readiness.

Air Force leadership has opened the innovation faucet and supports Airmen to create more efficient processes for mission readiness, said Senft.

Airmen are now asking questions of what can improve their unit’s mission, finding a solution and acting on it, she said.

With the expansion of innovation throughout the Air Force, Senate defense officials have advanced a proposed \$675 billion Pentagon spending measure for 2019 to invest in innovation and research to maintain America’s military edge, according to Defense News.

“This bill sustains U.S. force structure and improves military readiness,” said Richard Shelby, Senate Appropriations Committee chairman. “It also recommends investments in future technologies needed to defend our nation in an increasingly complex and competitive national security environment.”

Travis’ innovation efforts are preparing the Air Force for a possible future where it might face a near-peer adversary inside of a contested environment, said Joseph.

“All Airmen in their respective units can create breakthroughs to advance and make their unit more efficient,” said Joseph. “You can make the Air Force a stronger and better force by starting with an idea, finding a solution and acting on it.”



U.S. Air Force photo/Louis Briscese



U.S. Air Force photo/Louis Briscese

**2) Dr. Richard J. Joseph, chief scientist of the United States Air Force, visits July 12 at Travis Air Force Base, Calif. 3) Joseph speaks with Airmen during his visit to Travis. He toured David Grant USAF Medical Center, Phoenix Spark lab and visited with Airmen.**



U.S. Air Force photo/Louis Briscese



U.S. Air Force photo/Louis Briscese

**4) Joseph watches during his visit. 5) Joseph holds a hot cup during his visit. 6) Senior Airman Michael Samuel, 60th Aerial Port Squadron, gives a briefing to Joseph. Joseph serves as the chief scientific adviser to the chief of staff and secretary of the Air Force. 7) Staff Sgt. March Tighe, 60th Maintenance Squadron, briefs Joseph. 8) Tech. Sgt. Samantha Soran, right, 60th Medical Group, gives a briefing to Joseph.**



U.S. Air Force photo/Louis Briscese



U.S. Air Force photo/Louis Briscese



U.S. Air Force photo/Louis Briscese



# CSAF strengthens Air Force ties in Italy

**Staff Sgt. Jannelle McRae**  
SECRETARY OF THE AIR FORCE  
 PUBLIC AFFAIRS

WASHINGTON — Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. David L. Goldfein visited several air bases July 5-9 across Italy, meeting with military and political leaders to strengthen international partnerships.

During his first stop, Goldfein met with Italian air force Col. Vincenzo Tozzi, Aviano Air Base commander, and thanked him for the support, hospitality and generosity members of the Italian air force and

neighboring community offer U.S. Airmen and families assigned to the 31st Fighter Wing.

The base, Goldfein said, is a symbol of American-Italian unity and represents a more than 60-year partnership between the U.S. Air Force and Aviano. Together, the U.S. and Italian Airmen stationed there provide critical support to NATO forces in the southern region.

“Every Airman on this base is tied directly into the mission, every one of you plays a role and Aviano connects directly to deterrence,” said Goldfein

during an all-call with 31st FW Airmen before departing Aviano AB.

Arriving at Amendola AB for the second leg of his trip, Goldfein was greeted by the Chief of Staff of the Italian air force, Lt. Gen. Enzo Vecciarelli, as well as Lt. Gen. Luca Goretti, Italian defense attaché.

While there, he visited the nearby city of Lucera, where his grandparents lived before migrating to the U.S.

In a ceremony hosted by the municipality, Goldfein was named an honorary citizen of



Courtesy photo

**U.S. Chief of Staff of the Air Force Gen. David L. Goldfein, right, is greeted by Italian Air Force Chief of Staff Lt. Gen. Enzo Vecciarelli upon his arrival July 7 at Amendola Air Base, Italy.**

See ITALY Page 24

## Former CSAF awarded for analytic achievements

**Secretary of the Air Force  
 Public Affairs**

WASHINGTON — Former Air Force Chief of Staff and retired Gen. Norton Schwartz was presented the 2017 Lt. Gen. Glenn A. Kent Leadership Award by Kevin Williams, director of Air Force Studies, Analyses and Assessments, July 13 at the Pentagon.

The annual award is presented to influential leaders who have had essential analytic responsibilities during their career and made a significant impact on the achievements of the Air Force analytical community.

“The key descriptors that define General Kent’s legacy are leadership, vision, significance and a lasting impact,” said Williams. “(These) are what General Schwartz demonstrated exceptionally well throughout his career.”

As chief of staff from 2008 to 2012, Schwartz brought an analytical dimension to major decisions that impacted the highest levels of the Department of Defense.

He guided the Air Force into the future while dealing with large reductions in funding driven by the Budget Control Act of 2011. Schwartz anticipated the importance of



U.S. Air Force photo/Andy Morataya

**Former Chief of Staff of the Air Force Gen. Norton Schwartz is presented the Lt. Gen. Glenn A. Kent Leadership Award by Kevin Williams, director of Air Force Studies, Analysis and Assessments during a ceremony July 13 at the Pentagon in Washington, D.C. Schwartz served as CSAF from 2008 to 2012.**

multidomain operations with an air-sea battle initiative in collaboration with the Navy, and advanced the capability and capacity of remotely piloted aircraft missions.

“General Schwartz, in all of these challenges ... you empowered and leveraged the analytic community across the Air Force to ensure the solid basis of facts and logic drove good decisions,” said Williams. “In doing so, like General Kent, you served as an inspiration to us.”

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# First remote 'R' device presented at Creech

**432nd Wing/432nd Air Expeditionary Wing Public Affairs**

CREECH AIR FORCE BASE, Nev. — The Air Force's first-ever remote "R" device was presented to aircrews of the 432nd Wing/432nd Air Expeditionary Wing July 11 at Creech Air Force Base, Nevada.

Col. Julian C. Cheater, 432nd WG/432nd AEW commander, ceremoniously presented the Meritorious Service Medals and Air Force Commendation Medals with the device.

The device was authorized in 2016, with the criteria released in 2017, establishing an award earned for hands-on employment of a weapons system

that had direct and immediate impact on a combat operation or other military operations. Qualifying actions can be performed in any domain, but must not expose the individual to personal hostile action.

This award ceremony recognized the direct impact Remotely Piloted Aircraft aircrews have on the battlefield and distinguished those who

performed extraordinarily in their capacities.

The "R" device is authorized for placement on the Legion of Merit, Meritorious Service Medal, Air Force Commendation Medal and Air Force Achievement Medal. It is not authorized on any other ribbon or medal.

432nd Wing leaders highlighted five Airmen for their

actions in combat.

Their selection was based on stringent criteria, including strategic significance, protection of ground forces, leadership displayed, critical thinking, level of difficulty and innovation.

"It is a great honor to recognize the contributions of these

See REMOTE Page 23

# 388th Maintenance Group saves with 3-D printing

**Micha Garbarino**  
388TH FIGHTER WING PUBLIC AFFAIRS

HILL AIR FORCE BASE, Utah — Inside a simple-looking building just off of Hill's flight line, Airmen are tinkering with advanced technology to bring the future of cost-effective maintenance to America's most advanced fighter aircraft.

The 388th Maintenance Group's Air Force Repair and Enhancement

Program shop recently acquired a 3-D printer with the hope of increasing availability and driving down costs for certain F-35 replacement parts.

"In the sortie generation cycle, we're always driving for speed, safety and quality to provide our operators what they need in terms of aircraft availability and readiness, but cost-effectiveness is also a priority," said Col. Michael Miles, 388th Maintenance Group commander. "This new tech has great cost-avoidance

potential and provides rapid repair capabilities."

Three-D printing, also called additive manufacturing, uses a computer-controlled machine to form automatically material into a three dimensional object. In this case, aircraft parts.

"In the AFREP program, we receive parts that have been damaged and fix them so that they can be returned to the supply chain more quickly," said Tech Sgt. Scott Mathews, assistant AFREP

manager. "It's much more cost effective for the Air Force than buying new parts."

Maintainers are excited about 3-D printing because it could potentially save thousands of dollars for simple plastic parts like wiring harnesses, grommets, fasteners, housing boxes and cable splitters. The Airmen have been learning how to use the printer by reaching out to other AFREP shops that use them, as well as through trial and error. They've been

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Worship Service & Bible Study.....10:30 am  
Evening Worship & Prayer.....6:00 pm

Wednesday:  
Dinner (Sept-May).....4:45 pm  
AWANA (Sept-May).....6:00 pm  
Youth.....6:00 pm  
Choir.....6:30 am  
Bible Study...10:00 am, 1:30 pm, 3:30 pm & 6:30 pm  
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Youth & Collegiate Church 1st, 2nd, & 5th Sundays

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Sunday: 9am & 11am

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Minister: Garrett Sander

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Sunday Morning Worship 10:30 AM  
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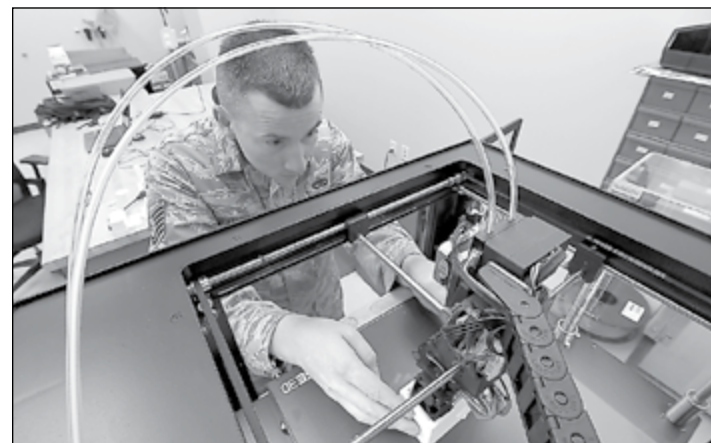
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U.S. Air Force photo/Todd Cromar

**Tech Sgt. Scott Mathews, assistant manager of the 388th Maintenance Group's Air Force Repair and Enhancement program, makes adjustments to a 3-D printer the unit is experimenting with to create pieces and parts faster and more cost effectively.**

## 3-D

From Page 21

working with in-house designs generated with the aid of computer software.

"Initially, it takes a time investment to create a design template, but once that's done, the printing goes pretty fast," said Mathews. "We'll have the ability to make one grommet for a wiring harness instead of spending thousands of dollars and waiting on a completely new wiring harness."

There may be some time before the team can actually provide printed parts to the maintenance shops' supply chain. Every new part's

process needs to be tested, proven and approved to ensure quality and safety before being used on an aircraft. Once the parts are approved, then the machine and process will also need to be certified by outside Air Force engineers.

But the team is looking forward to the challenge of establishing an F-35 repairable program and exploring all the possibilities that lay ahead.

"I love this job. It's like brainstorming and troubleshooting all day long. It's like getting paid to tinker around in the garage," said Mathews, who is from Bremerton, Washington, and followed his older brother into a career in the Air Force.



U.S. Air Force photo/Samuel King Jr.

**A 96th Security Forces Squadron base defense operations center controller plots a cordon area using the android tactical assault kit July 5 at Eglin Air Force Base, Fla.**

## System

From Page 13

AFRL, which acts as a hub linking the patrols and BDOC. Other non-ATAK functions, like vehicle and license check information work virtually like a phone app.

Of course, there was some apprehension from the defenders with new technology changing the tried-and-true manual processes, but that did not last long, according to Staff Sgt. Christopher Farrell, the NCO in charge of the tablet implementation.

"Once they saw the benefits out in the field, all of the feedback was positive," he said.

There are three areas the new tablet system greatly improved the way 96th SFS completes its mission so far.

With the tablet, patrol units now have access to the electronic license and vehicle information system within their car. Prior to the device, Airmen would radio into BDOC to get this information during a traffic stop. This information retrieval would involve at least two people, vocal communication and hand-written recording of the needed data. Now, it takes a few key strokes and a good cellular signal.

The tablets are linked to GPS. This gives BDOC instant awareness of where the patrol vehicles

are at all times. Prior to this, radio communication would be required to locate a specific patrol car. The GPS is also vital in emergency situations, because the BDOC controllers can instantly see patrols in the area and dispatch them to the location.

These areas of effectiveness revealed in only a few months. New areas of implementation and ways the tablet can be used are being discovered with regularity, according to Farrell.

"The more training they have with the tablet, the more uses we find for it," he said.

The idea began much smaller with a funding request to put tablets with access to the license and vehicle information system in patrol vehicles. The request was routed through and eventually paid for through the 96th TW's new innovation division and the leadership panel that reviews each idea.

The idea was approved with a caveat for the defenders to look into ATAK. With the discovery of that system's capabilities, the initial small idea blossomed into a completely new, faster and more accurate communication system for Eglin's security forces.

"(Without the innovation process) security forces wouldn't be testing this capability for possibly the rest of the Air Force," said Capt. Chandler Harms, 96th SFS and the project's initiator. "Without the conversation (about ATAK) we'd still be operating the same way we did since the '90s."

instant situational awareness. This proves useful on shifting patrols and critical in accident and suspicious package incidents.

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## Remote

From Page 20

Airmen," said Cheater. "Much of the world will never know details of their contributions due to operational security, but rest assured that they have made significant impacts while saving friendly lives."

All devices may be awarded retroactively to Jan. 7, 2016.

### Bringing the fight to the enemy

In three separate combat operations, aircrews from the 432nd Operations Group and the 732nd OG were successful in eliminating threats and saving lives of American and coalition forces on the ground.

Retired Maj. Asa, 732nd OG MQ-9 pilot and mission commander, and then-second lieutenant, now Capt. Evan, 732nd OG MQ-9 Reaper pilot distinguished themselves in combat operations in February 2016. The crew members' names are obscured due to security interests.

The crew supported dominant persistent attack and reconnaissance over 74 days to

identify a high-value target and known terrorist. Once identified, the crew adapted to a dynamic situation as the target traveled through densely populated areas at a high speed.

Evan's crew provided key input and strategic coordination with other aircraft and buddy-lased for the strike, successfully removing the theater's No. 2 high-value individual from the battlefield. Buddy lasing is a technique where a laser-equipped aircraft guides in a laser-guided weapon delivered from another aircraft.

Evan, who said the "R" device should help shed light on the impact RPA aircrews have in battle, was humbled to be recognized and hopes that those outside of the enterprise gain a better understanding of what RPAs bring to the fight.

"I went home that night and I knew what I did," said Evan. "I think to the outside community, something like this will give a sense of perspective."

In another combat operation, then-second lieutenant, now 1st Lt. Eric, 432nd OG MQ-9 pilot; and Senior Airman Jason, 432nd OG MQ-9 sensor operator, were recognized for their support during a

contingency effort.

While scanning for Islamic State of Iraq and Syria enemies ahead of coalition forces on the ground, the crew discovered a truck with a large-caliber machine gun mounted in the bed moving toward friendly forces. The vehicle began firing at the friendly forces for a short period of time and then returned to a garage. The enemy repeated this maneuver multiple times.

The crew began coordinating a nine-line with a Joint Terminal Attack Controller for strike authorization. While maneuvering the aircraft, the crew noticed a large group of civilian adults and children across the street in an alley from the vehicle firing at friendly forces.

With a persistent attack capability, the crew elected to wait until the vehicle returned back to the garage in order to protect the civilians.

"In this particular situation, we were able to quickly assess that the enemy was not yet inflicting effective fire on friendly forces which allowed us to completely prepare for the strike," said Eric.

Once the truck returned to the garage, Eric and Jason took

action. Using their only AGM-114 Hellfire missile, they eliminated both the vehicle and enemy combatants who performed hostile actions while safeguarding friendly forces and civilians.

Additionally, Capt. Abraham, 432nd OG MQ-9 pilot, and his aircrew were scanning a known hostile area when the weather deteriorated, causing all manned aircraft to exit the area. Abraham remained on station. After several hours of surveillance, he observed enemy personnel begin to open fire on friendly forces.

While battling increasingly adverse conditions, Abraham dynamically employed four Hellfire missiles, eliminating three enemy targets, two vehicles and one mortar system. He then navigated the safe return of his aircraft despite the marginal weather.

All recipients made key decisions in the heat of the fight which saved lives on the battlefield.

### Recognizing modern warfare contributions

This device originated from the controversial Distinguished Warfare Medal

proposed in 2014. Similar to the "R" device, the original decoration aimed to honor those who made a significant impact in combat without physically being exposed to hostile action.

The proposition was declined due to its ranking, which would have placed it above the Purple Heart and Bronze Star with the Combat valor "V" device, a suggestion that didn't sit well with many combat veterans.

Simultaneously, Air Force officials announced that it would be replaced by a device that would attach to authorized medals. Since then, Air Force leadership has made strides in normalizing the RPA enterprise with the Culture and Process Improvement Program, an initiative that brought forward several improvements including improved manning, additional basing opportunities and streamlined training.

"These members create direct combat effects that lead to strategic outcomes and deliver lethal force, while physically located outside the combat area," said Lt. Gen. Gina Grosso, the deputy chief of staff for manpower, personnel and services in a 2017 release.

## Landing

From Page 6

formation and with those on the ground to ensure this potentially life-threatening scenario concluded safely. Their actions, which exemplify crew resource

management at its finest, saved lives and an \$88 million asset.

Please join us in congratulating the following crew from the 60th OG: Hyatt, Leli, 1st Lt. Joel Stark, Tech. Sgt. Chris Robertson Sy, Senior Airman Patrick Moore and Senior Airman Zachariah Ploeger.



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U.S. Air Force photo/Airman 1st Class Ryan Brooks  
**Chief of Staff of the Air Force Gen. David L. Goldfein speaks to Aviano Air Base Airmen during his base tour July 6 at Aviano Air Base, Italy.**

## Italy

From Page 19

the city, the first foreign citizen to receive the distinction.

Goldfein said he would not forget the honor and thanked the city's mayor, Antonio Tutolo, council members, and the crowd of local citizens gathered for the ceremony, promising to visit again.

Upon departing from Amendola AB, Goldfein made his final stop at Ghedi AB, where he was welcomed by Italian air force Col. Luca Maineri, commander of NATO's 6th Stormo Wing.

There he received a base tour that included the 704th

Munitions Support Squadron, a geographically separated unit assigned to the 52nd Fighter Wing at Spangdahlem AB, Germany.

Concluding his tour of Italian air bases, Goldfein expressed gratitude to his Italian counterparts for the partnership between the U.S. and Italy, long-standing NATO allies.

"The strength in Italy is unbreakable, thanks to the foundation and bonds of trust and confidence established by those who came before us," he said. "And today, we find each other at the intersection of airpower and amity, a 74-year history of mutual respect and shared values between our nations and a shared interest in global order."

## 24th AF

From Page 12

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U.S. Air Force photo/Tech. Sgt. Joseph Swafford

U.S. Airmen assigned to the 455th Expeditionary Medical Group transport an Afghan National Defense and Security Forces soldier, who sustained trauma from a gunshot, to the operating room Sept. 26, 2015, at the Craig Joint Theater Hospital, Bagram Air Field, Afghanistan. The CJTH provides surgical capabilities in trauma, general surgery, orthopedics, neurosurgery, urology, vascular surgery and otolaryngology, all of which are critical to helping 98 percent of patients who come to the hospital survive their injuries.

## Hewitt

From Page 4

massive American flag that canopies the triage area. Our patient had arrived at the threshold of safety.

As the trauma nurses and physicians took care of my patient, I returned to the MEDEVAC ramp and the number of patients had almost doubled. Every hand was on deck. Every skill set was utilized. Every brow damp with sweat. There was no idle conversation. Every single medic was focused on ensuring that each patient who arrived with a pulse stayed alive. This was a day that each of us will carry in some way, shape or form for the rest of our lives.

I washed the blood off my gloved hands and received the next wounded soldier, the course of events was not lost on me. I continued on, as did each and every member of the ERPSS team, and tended to the next patient, then the next and so forth.

At the end of the day the effects of what had happened was

easy to see on all of our faces. As we walked back to our dorms in our blood stained uniforms, we all knew that we had made a difference in this mass casualty.

When I removed my bloody clothes, I realized that as an ERPSS nurse, I do not just keep 'em movin. I play an immense and unique role in keepin 'em livin. The ERPSS team does much more than simply moving patients from one place to another. We are not the Uber of the desert. We are an essential link in the chain of survival for our wounded and critically ill Airmen, Sailors, Soldiers and Marines.

CJTH has an outstanding role in this process and one of our chants is: "No one dies today, they live to fight another day!" I realize now that each individual here- no matter their job or title- plays a fundamental role in getting our wounded and critically ill brothers and sisters safely back home. So, the next time I hear, "We keep 'em movin'" I will know deep down that ultimately, "we keep 'em livin!"

## Council

From Page 14

process. Looking at the data, Heise said the council determined the problem is the limited annual capacity of the process.

"To highlight the need for change, data showed the integrated process was able to address \$200 million of Air Force security systems requirements with only 500 contract actions," said Heise. "It took 100 other contracting offices four times as many contract actions to address half the requirements."

Heise also said the council is leveraging the new Federal Category Management structure to improve the lethality, readiness and standardization of Air Force systems.

Historical spending data also showed the Air Force was buying a wide variety of explosive detection systems and cargo and baggage screening equipment. Heise and his team are partnering with the Transportation Security Administration, the recognized federal expert on these systems, to see if they can help the Air Force implement a better sourcing strategy to obtain a

standardized set of the best overall systems.

The Security and Protection Category Council is one of the first two category management councils in the Air Force. It is led by the AFSFC, an Air Force Installation and Mission Support Center primary subordinate unit.

Col. Brian Greenroad, AFSFC commander, is the category manager. The council director, Heise, said their efforts in sourcing strategy decisions must be data driven, closing the gap between the buying strategy and business- and market-intelligence-identified government or industry best practices.

In addition to savings or cost avoidance, category management should also provide better products or services and standardization; all while promoting small business utilization rates. Category management has been used by commercial industry for years. The Office of Management and Budget began using the approach in the federal government in December 2014.



U.S. Air Force photo

A team of en route maintenance Airmen converged from multiple locations as part of a Maintenance Recovery Team, returning a C-17 Globemaster III aircraft back to the mobility fleet from a forward deployed location in Southwest Asia.

## Mission

From Page 11

in different MAJCOMs to fix a single asset is but a taste of the capabilities and quality of Airmen in the en route system," Huff said.

Air Mobility Command's global en route system is the foundation for the rapid, global movement of aircraft, cargo and personnel. Similar to the presence of commercial cargo terminals at major international airports - which unite surface and air transportation networks to move packages and cargo - Air Mobility Command has a permanent global en route presence at more than 30 key locations around the world, large and small, from Europe to the Middle East, and all throughout the Pacific. Mobility Airmen at these en route locations sustain and provide a host of capabilities, including aerial port operations, aircraft maintenance, aeromedical evacuation support and command and control.

For Staff Sgt. Darren McCorkhill, 721st AMXS electronic and environmental technician, the team's experience together while forward

deployed left a lasting impression and understanding of the mobility mission.

"At Ramstein, I see the planes come and go with cargo, and now I have seen the end destination where Airmen are on the receiving end," McCorkhill said. "I now truly understand the full spectrum of

the mission and getting planes back in the fight."

Staff Sgt. Joshua Sims, a C-17 aerospace propulsion craftsman with the 8th EAMS, agreed.

"I am glad we were able to get the aircraft back in the air to accomplish the air mobility mission," Sims said.

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## Cookouts

From Page 5

Clean hands, surfaces and utensils with soap and warm water before cooking and wash your hands for 20 seconds before and after handling raw food.

Use separate cutting boards, plates and utensils for raw meat or poultry and ready-to-eat food to avoid cross-contamination.

Confirm foods are cooked to a safe internal temperature using a food thermometer.

Chill foods promptly after cooking if not consuming immediately. Don't leave food at room temperature for more than two hours or more than an hour if the ambient temperature is above 90 degrees Fahrenheit.

To destroy harmful bacteria, cook food to the following temperatures:

- Beef, pork, lamb and veal steaks, roasts and chops: 145 degrees Fahrenheit (63

degrees Celsius).

- Beef hamburgers: 160 degrees Fahrenheit.

- Ground meats: 160 degrees Fahrenheit (71 degrees Celsius).

- Whole poultry, poultry breasts and ground poultry: 165 degrees Fahrenheit (74 degrees Celsius).

### Other food safety tips

Seal leftovers within two hours of cooking. Divide them into smaller portions and refrigerate or freeze in shallow containers for quicker cooling.

Stock the cooler with ice or frozen gel packs to keep perishable foods cold. Avoid temperature fluctuation inside the cooler by packing perishable foods in one cooler and beverages in another. If driving, keep the cooler in the coolest part of the car. If outdoors, place the cooler in the shade when possible.

For more information and tips on preparing safe summer meals, visit FoodSafety.gov, or call the Public Health Office at 707-423-5470.

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# Mail

From Page 3

While scanning a parcel, the system Robinson was using gave a positive reading for acetone peroxide, which is a major explosive chemical compound, according to the Office of Homeland Security.

Robinson relied on her training and sprang into action.

"I immediately informed Tech. Sgt. Demarcus Pettiford, the NCO in charge, and began taking force protection actions to secure the area and all accountable pieces of mail," she said. "After securing all accountable items in safe one and two, the equipment was sterilized and the process repeated. Again, we received an alert for possible explosives. At this time, we began to evacuate the mail center and notified Col. Thomas Stady, 60th CS commander, who in turn, proceeded to assist in the evacuation process."

Simultaneously, Pettiford made the call to the Emergency Communications Center.

Within minutes, an explosive ordnance disposal unit arrived on scene.

"Four buildings were evacuated and most of the area surrounding the mail center was closed off," said Robinson. "Emergency response teams showed up and executed their respective responsibilities flawlessly. After three and a half hours, the all clear was given."

Robinson credits her team's ability to properly respond to a potentially dangerous situation to their training.

"I believe the training I received helped me (and our team) remain calm and handle the situation properly," she said. "At times like these, one has to depend on their training."

Pettiford said his team may be tiny, but it is mighty.

"I'm extremely proud of the team that I serve with," he said. "Even though we are small, we accomplish much."

"That day showed me that the threat is always out there and to always be vigilant; the importance of paying attention to detail," said Robinson. "Also, one never knows when their training will be put to the test."



Airman 1st Class Noah Carlton, 60th Force Support Squadron, sorts the day's squadron mail May 5 at Travis Air Force Base, Calif. The 60 FSS Official Mail Center is responsible for processing mail for Travis AFB, David Grant USAF Medical Center and commercial company deliveries.

# AAFES

From Page 4

deals. On Veterans Day 2017, the Exchange welcomed home all who served honorably with a lifelong online military exchange shopping benefit.

"The Exchange has gone where our Soldiers, Airmen and families have gone for 123 years, and every moment has been a privilege," said General Manager J. "We want to celebrate our anniversary with

those we serve – the best customers in the world."

The Exchange's storied history includes investing 100 percent of earnings in military communities. About two-thirds of Exchange earnings are contributed to quality-of-life programs, such as child development centers, youth programs and fitness centers on installations around the world. In the last 10 years, the Exchange has contributed more than \$2.4 billion to these programs.

# Sijan

From Page 12

through colonel).

- Junior officer (2nd lieutenant through captain).
- Senior enlisted (master sergeant through chief master sergeant).

- Junior enlisted (airman through technical sergeant).

Specific eligibility and application procedures for the Sijan award are available on myPers. Select "Any" from the dropdown menu and search "Sijan." For more information about Air Force awards, visit <http://www.afpc.af.mil/Recognition/>.

# Erwin

From Page 2

South Dakota. They ranged from crowds of two hundred packed in a Catholic cathedral, to a simple ceremony with the pastor and a friend standing together at a hero's final resting

spot overlooking the Black Hills National Cemetery near Sturgis.

A year of these experiences gave me the understanding that the opportunities life presents us with aren't always the most favorable in the moment, but they help us appreciate what they mean.



1) Col. Victor Beeler, 60th Mission Support Group commander, receives his first salute during a change-of-command ceremony July 16 at Travis Air Force Base, Calif. 2) From left, Col. Ethan Griffin, 60th Air Mobility Wing commander, Col. Lance Clark, 60th MSG outgoing commander, and Beeler salute during the ceremony. Griffin was the presiding officer for the ceremony. 3) Chief Master Sgt. Erika Scofield, 60th Mission Support Group superintendent, secures the guidon during the ceremony. 4) Members of the honor guard prepare to present the colors prior to the 60th MSG ceremony.

# 60TH MSG ... welcomes new commander

U.S. Air Force photos by Louis Briscese




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