

AUGUST 6, 2021

Pentagon 'safe, secure' following attack

JIM GARAMONE

DOD NEWS

The Pentagon is "safe and secure" after an incident this week that caused several casualties, said Woodrow Kusse, the chief of the Pentagon Police Division.

Kusse spoke at the Pentagon Briefing Room on Tues-

"Tuesday morning at about 10:37 a.m., a Pentagon police officer was attacked on the Metro bus platform," the chief said. "Gunfire was exchanged, and there were several casualties. The incident is over and the scene is secure. And most importantly, there's no continuing threat to our community."

The FBI is leading the investigation into the incident, the chief said, supported by many different jurisdictions.

The Pentagon Metro station and the bus terminal on the south side of the building was closed. It is an active investigation and Chief Husse did not want to do anything to jeopardize the integrity of the process. "The information that I have is preliminary, so it continues to evolve," he told reporters. " I will be providing those details at the earliest opportunity. But right now, it's just premature, that the situation has been resolved but the investigation must continue."

Tailwind

Travis AFB, Calif. | 60th Air Mobility Wing

Air Force

Col. Corey A. Simmons

60th Air Mobility Wing commander

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Chief of command information

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Pentagon Press Secretary John F. Kirby holds a joint press conference with Pentagon Force Projection Agency police chief Woodrow Kusse, at the Pentagon, Washington, D.C., Aug. 3, 2021.

The chief would not address what motivated the attacker, nor categorize the injuries the casualties received.

The Pentagon Metro station had been the site of incidents before, most recently in 2010. The chief said the Pentagon Force Protection Force will examine the incident once the investigation is concluded and look for ways to do their iobs better.

"The Pentagon Metro station is probably one of the busiest in the (Washington) transportation system," he said. "It is a hub for commuters as well as building occupants."

It is too early to draw conclusions from the attack, he said. "It's still pending, we will certainly, as this investigation concludes, take another look at any measures," the chief said. "Our mission is to

protect not just the building, but the community that we serve."

Secretary of Defense Lloyd J. Austin III was at the White House for meetings with President Joe Biden when word of the attack reached him. Upon returning to the building he stopped at the PFPA Operations Center to check on the situation, Pentagon Press Secretary John F. Kirby said.

Military Star card boosts first-day discount online, at Exchange, commissary

Defense Commissary Agency

TRAVIS AIR FORCE BASE — Travis Air Force Base Airmen and military shoppers looking to save at military exchanges and commissaries can receive an additional 15% savings when they open and use a new Military Star account.

The discount applies to all purchases made the first day between Aug. 20 and Sept. 2 and is in place of the regular 10% discount for new cardholders. The savings will appear as a credit on the first monthly billing statement.

New accountholders will receive the 15% discount on all first-day purchases at military exchanges and commissaries, as well as online at Shop-MyExchange.com, my Navy-Exchange.com and ShopCGX. com.

All honorably discharged veterans who have confirmed their eligibility to shop at Shop-MyExchange.com can use their Military Star card shopping the Exchange online. Veterans with a service-connected disability are eligible to shop in stores. For more information, veterans can visit See DISCOUNT Page 16

Table of contents

Cover story	10-11
Worship services	13-14
Puzzle	15
Classifieds	17
Parting Shots	19

On the cover

Senior Airman Caleb Harlon. **60th Operational Medical** Readiness Squadron licensed vocational nurse technician, briefs U.S. Air Force Lt. Gen. Robert Miller, Air Force and Space Force Surgeon General.

U.S. Air Force photo/Lan Kim

AUGUST 6, 2021

Staff Sgt. Christian Conrad

TRAVIS AIR FORCE BASE — In a visit spanning over a half dozen agencies, Chief Master Sgt. Chad Bickley, 18th Air Force command chief, attempted to run the gamut of capabilities possessed by Travis Air Force Base, California, July 30, 2021. Bickley, whose sat in the 18th AF command chief seat since November 2020, was eager to take a deep dive into the Travis AFB culture in respect

to both its mission and people.

a special place in my heart," said Bickley. "My family and I loved our time here. I love the mission, the culture, the people and local community. Travis has and will always be pivotal to the security of this great nation."

base's Monarch Dining Facilvation lab to its aircraft, Bickthe Air Force.

topics touched on by Bickley.

about the race, gender or mar-



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Visit the Travis public web site at http://www.travis af.mil. Read the Tailwind online at http://tailwind.dailv

TRAVIS

18th Air Force command chief visits Travis

60TH AIR MOBILITY WING PUBLIC AFFAIRS

"Travis will always have

With stops ranging from the ity to its Phoenix Spark innolev was able to see the many facets of Travis AFB, dropping the ever-reliable nugget of wisdom and also his own hopes for

Suicide prevention and the importance of diversity within the Air Force were among the "If I get injured down-range by an attack, am I concerned

ital preference of my first responder?" Bickley asked a group of Airmen during his



U.S. Air Force Chief Master Sgt. Chad Bickley, 18th Air Force command chief, right, greets Master Sgt. Joshua Wells, Airman Leadership School commandant, during a tour of Travis Air Force Base, California, July 30, 2021. In addition to the base tour, Bickley's visit included conversations with Airmen about suicide prevention and diversity and inclusion.

visits. "Of course not! My only concern is can they perform the mission we've assigned them to do to standard. If we have a small pocket of Airmen in our formations that have concerns about race, gender and marital preferences, they need to get over it. We're going to treat everyone with dignity and respect."

With the suicide rate among active duty service members on the rise, Bickley also reiterated the importance

of taking a break—something he views as vital to keeping the Air Force the world's finest.

"There is a worldwide shortage of mental health providers," Bickley said. "For now, we'll continue to pursue more resources, but this is the hand we've been dealt and we need to lead through it. Additionally, we need to continue emphasizing to our Airmen it's okay to take a knee and ask for help.'

Bickley also stopped by

Travis AFB's flight line, where he toured the base's mobility aircraft and witnessed procedures used by the base's 60th Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron

Bickley gave special credit to the crews who during the COVID-19 pandemic, played a pivotal role in both mitigating the spread of the virus and providing aid and hope to areas most affected.

"Our aeromedical evacuation

See VISIT Page 15

Military Star card saves Exchange \$200,000-plus at Travis, \$30M worldwide in 2020

Defense Commissary Agency

TRAVIS AIR FORCE BASE Reaching for the Military Star card at a military exchange store or commissary is strengthening benefits for all who serve and have served.

Authorized exchange and commissary shoppers who used the Military Star card available exclusively to military members, retirees, veterans and military dependents saved the military community \$28.7 million in banking transaction fees in 2020. according to a press release from the Defense Commissary Agency.

Travis Air Force Base shoppers who used their Military Star cards saved the Exchange \$215,500, according to a press release from the Travis Exchange

"Since 100% percent of Exchange's earnings are reinvested in the military community, avoiding transaction fees means more money going to our heroes and their families," Travis Exchange General Manager Phonda Bishop said in the press release. "That's why using Military Star benefits not just the cardholders, but the entire Travis Air Force

See EXCHANGE Page 20



Name: SrA Savannah G. Austin Unit: 60 HCOS, Emergency Services Dept. Duty title: 4A, Emergency Services Admin Hometown: Andover, Kansas Time in service: Almost 5 years Family: None What are your goals? Become a tattoo artist

What are your hobbies?

Tattooing, digital art, taking care of her cats

What is your greatest achievement?

Improving her art skills in which she was able to make an art portfolio.



Soldiers from the 1st Battalion, 214th Aviation Regiment, were vaccinated while in Bulgaria during exercise Swift Response, May 7, 2021.

COVID vaccines: benefits still outweigh risks

Janet A. Aker

MHS COMMUNICATIONS

Only a small fraction of people in the military community have experienced breakthrough infections after receiving a COVID-19 vaccination - and none of them have Health Agency Director Army Lt. Gen. (Dr.) Ronald Place.

Place revealed new data about breakthrough infections among people who are fully vaccinated against COVID-19 at a July 20 virtual town hall for DHA employees.

Place explained that the evidence shows how effective the vaccine has been and he encouraged all service members and others to get fully vaccinated.

"The fact of the matter is the efficacy is very good," Place said. "From a safety perspective, for those of us who are [fully] vaccinated, it is exceptionally uncommon for us to need hospitalization."

More than 2 million people in the Military Health System thoughts on the potential imhave received full COVID-19 vaccinations, Place said. Of that number, about 1,600 people have been infected with the novel coronavirus.

"How many of those have had to be hospitalized? Less died, according to Defense than 50," he told nearly 2,000 employee town hall participants. "There have been no deaths among that hospitalized group."

Yet despite strong evidence of the vaccine's safety and efficacy, significant portions of the military and civilian pop- the butterfly effect. How can ulations remain hesitant to get the shot

For those who remain skeptical, Place encouraged them to: "Have a true, meaningful conversation with somebody you trust or some buddies that you trust."

He suggested also talking to "your health care team, those family members that you trust and other members of the DHA that you may trust."

Place also shared his to vaccinate," because the panpact the unvaccinated population can have on their broader community

Military personnel during a town hall meeting

"I'm just concerned that there are a number of us who, year. for whatever reason, believe the best course of action is to not be vaccinated."

"I get it for the 19 year olds or the 16 year olds, the 24 year olds - 'I'm Superman. No bugs are going to beat me," he said.

"The answer to me then is we break that cycle" whereby an unvaccinated military service member may be asymptomatic, or minimally symptomatic, but spreads CO-VID-19 to family members and barracks mates, who then may spread the virus to others, sometimes with deadly consequences.

Echoing the motto of the [fully vaccinated]." San Antonio Market, Place said "it's not too late

demic is still with us.

He noted the uptick in CO-VID-19 cases across the country in recent weeks, largely driven by the Delta variant that spreads more easily than the variants which spread last

"No matter what metric you look at, it's worse. We thought we were in a good place based on [vaccination rates against] the variants that were in societv at the time."

However, "this [Delta] variant is different. That means the vaccination level needs to go up," he said.

Discussing herd immunity, Place said: "It's not about 70%" of the armed services being [partially] vaccinated. He indicated that with our still somewhat limited understanding of this coronavirus, "to me the only number I can really be comfortable with is 100%

As of July 16, the Pentagon

See VACCINE Page 18

Masks are back for DoD employees

C. Todd Lopez

DOD NEWS

by the Centers for Disease Con-

trol and Prevention, the De-

fense Department has directed employees working in areas

at high risk for transmission to

begin using face masks again

as a measure to prevent the

continued spread of the COV-

ID-19 virus, especially the fast-

moving, highly-transmittable

department came in a memo-

randum signed by Deputy De-

fense Secretary Kathleen H.

high community transmission,

DOD requires all service mem-

bers, federal employees, onsite

contractor employees and visi-

tors, regardless of vaccination

status, to wear a mask in an in-

door setting in installations and

other facilities owned, leased or

otherwise controlled by DOD,"

The memo also says that

See MASKS Page 18

the memorandum read.

U.S. Air Force Staff Sgt. Colton

Squadron passenger terminal shift

supervisor, decontaminates a bus

after transporting passengers to

Pearl Harbor-Hickam, Hawaii,

March 25, 2020.

and from the aircraft at Joint Base

Webber, 735th Air Mobility

"In areas of substantial or

The new guidance for the

Delta variant.

Hicks.

Following guidance issued

AUGUST 6, 2021

Two important partnership initiatives between the United States and Vietnam will continue as both countries look for ways to help Vietnam combat COVID-19 and as both countries step up the Vietnam War-era personnel accounting program, said Secretary of Defense Lloyd J. Austin III during meetings with Vietnamese officials today.

ister Phan Van Giang.

and cold storage freezers.

"We are also proud to have donated 5 million doses of Moderna vaccines to Vietnam," he said during his talks at the prime minister's office. "I look forward to discussing additional ways that but the U.S. "does not ask Vietnam to



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U.S., Vietnam discuss COVID-19 aid, new program to find war dead

DOD NEWS

Austin was making the first trip to Southeast Asia by a senior Biden administration official. He met with newly elected Vietnamese President Nguyen Xuan Phuc, Prime Minister Pham Minh Chinh and National Defense Min-

At the meetings, the secretary spoke of the challenging times COVID-19 has created. The U.S. has reached out to the nations of Southeast Asia to help them in their fight against the disease. Austin noted that the U.S. has provided vaccines, laboratory and testing equipment

the United States can support Vietnam's response."

Turning to the Vietnam War-era personnel accounting program, a portion of the meeting at the Ministry of National Defense concerned the Vietnam Wartime Accounting Initiative Memorandum of Understanding between the two countries. It enables the Vietnamese people to search millions of records, "to help search for their own missing, and to recover war dead," a senior Defense official said. At the heart of that memo is the collaboration with Harvard and Texas Tech creating a searchable database containing millions of records.

The importance of this project was clearly evident in the fact that progress was only slowed, not stopped, by the pandemic. U.S. and Vietnamese teams continued to search for those missing even as COVID-19 caused shutdowns.

"The United States and Vietnam have such a complex shared history of sacrifice." Austin said at the National Defense Ministry. "When our two countries resumed normalization, the United States committed itself to respecting Vietnam's political system and your independent and balanced foreign policy."

The United States has a productive own futures." and warm relationship with Vietnam,



Secretary of Defense Lloyd J. Austin III meets with President Nguyen Xuan Phuc of Vietnam in Hanoi. July 29. 2021.

"In fact, one of our central goals is en- then "has been striking and inspiring. suring that our allies and partners have We have built a foundation of trust and the freedom and space to chart their understanding tied to our decades-long

Normalization of relations between the two nations occurred in 1995. Austin

choose between partners," Austin said. said the growth in cooperation since cooperation on war legacy issues."

The U.S. will continue its dioxin

See VIETNAM Page 16

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Master Sgt. Justin Bauer from the 355th Fighter Wing at Davis-Monthan Air Force Base, Ariz., was awarded the Spark Tank 2021 trophy for his idea, "Innovative Approach to C-130 Wheel Repair."

Wanted: Innovative ideas for Spark Tank 2022

Secretary of the **Air Force Public Affairs**

WRIGHT-PATTERSON AIR FORCE BASE. Ohio (AFNS) — Spark Tank 2022. a Department of the Air Force annual competition in which Airmen and Guardians pitch innovative solutions to

operational problems, will accept submissions in early August 2021.

Spark Tank is co-sponsored by the Deputy Under Secretary of the Air Force for Management (SAF/MG) and AF-WERX. "Spark Tank is a crucial part of the Air Force's See SPARK Page 8



AIR FORCE CELEBRATING 48 YEARS EST. 1978 FAMILY OWNED & OPERATED SUMMER SAVINGS sunshine & ON ALL VEHICLES MITHHEATRY DISCOUNTS EVENT (BRAY HAMMINAY (BIMAN) **Honda Certified Used Cars** OTO MONDA NEXCOLO TARADA LE 1.27 transi wanata dawa izanze uz 1919 HONDA COVIC SECOND LX

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Used Car Sales Event!

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AVERY GREENE

SELATE ...





the games via video conference.

JIM GARAMONE

the Olympics and Paralympics.

the United States. "I wanted to just reach

you to know that we're enorery one of you.'

on the world stage.





Service members competing in the 2021 Tokyo Olympics talk virtually with Secretary of Defense Lloyd J. Austin III during his trip to the Indo-Pacific region, July 28, 2021. Austin took the opportunity to acknowledge, congratulate and thank the service members competing in

Secretary of Defense Lloyd J. Austin III talks with service members competing in the 2021 Tokyo Olympics during his trip to the Indo-Pacific region, July 28, 2021. Austin was on a weeklong trip to reaffirm defense relationships and conduct bilateral meetings with senior officials in Singapore, Vietnam and the Philippines.

Austin reaches out to service members on Olympics, Paralympics teams

DOD NEWS Secretary of Defense Lloyd J. Austin III took a break from security discussions in Singapore to congratulate U.S. service members competing in

Austin spoke via Zoom to 15 service members on the teams. Some were in Tokyo, others in

out to you and congratulate all of you for the tremendous work that you've done to get to where you are," Austin said. "It is truly remarkable, it is truly a big deal, and I wanted mously proud of each and ev-

Austin told the team members that he appreciated the hard work they put in to not only be outstanding service members, but elite athletes representing the United States



knew she would do so well. "I knew when I got here that if an swimmer. Marks has com-I ... just allowed myself to do what I know how to do, and stav as calm as possible and cessful outcome," she said.

He spoke with Army 1st Lt. advice for her fellow ser- was a spectator of the sport. wonderful things with the

Austin also spoke with Austin asked her if she Army Sgt. 1st Class Elizabeth "Ellie" Marks, a Paralympipeted in a number of competitions including the Invictus Games, where she met Britfocus, that it would be a suc- ain's Prince Harry. 'I had no idea who he was," she told the He asked if she had any secretary. "I just thought he

Marks will begin competition soon and is watching the Olympics with interest. "I feel incredibly inspired by mates, and they are doing members.

Olympics," she said. "I hope that I can do them proud at the Paralympics.'

Austin told Marks that she is already making Americans proud. "All of you are making the performance of my team- us proud," he told the service

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Se Habla Españo

Spark

From Page 6

relentless search for innovative technology," said Col. Nathan Diller, AFWERX director. "The operational skills and knowledge our Airmen and Guardians possess give them the expertise not only to identify problems unique to their jobs, but also solutions."

This is the fifth year of the Spark Tank competition. Spark Tank 2021 drew more than 300 submissions with five finalists. Master Sgt. Justin Bauer from the 355th Fighter Wing at Davis-Monthan Air Force Base, Arizona, was awarded the Spark Tank trophy for his idea, "Innovative Approach to C-130 Wheel Repair." Previous winners and finalists have offered improvements from smart weapons loading checklists to robotic process automation for personnel records and everything in-between.

As a bonus, SAF/MG and AFWERX are introducing Spark Tank innovation awards to recognize innovative solutions proposed and developed by Airmen and Guardians across the enterprise. The awards are designed to

encourage innovation development, talent retention, and speed up adopting emerging, game-changing technologies that impact the Air and Space Force.

"Spark Tank offers a great opportunity to highlight the innovative spirit of our Airmen and Guardians," said William Gautier, Spark Tank director. "These risk-takers, idea makers, and entrepreneurs reject the status quo, instead they seek inventive answers that improve how our jobs are done."

To enable participation, interested members will submit ideas through the recently launched Guardian and Airmen Innovation Network portal. GAIN allows personnel to share ideas, critique submissions, and vote on the most promising solutions.

Innovation submissions are due via GAIN no later than close of business, Oct. 1, 2021. Finalists will be announced in January 2022. The pitch-finals competition will take place on March 4, 2022, at the Air Force Association's Aerospace Warfare Symposium in Orlando, Florida.

More information will be forthcoming at https://www. afwerx.af.mil/spark-tank.html.

Spark Tank competition at afwerx.af.mil.

About AFWERX

AFWERX, a Technical Directorate of the Air Force Research Laboratory and the innovation arm of the Department Air Force, connects innovators across government, industry and academia. Through innovation and collaboration with our nation's top subjectmatter experts and harnessing the power of ingenuity of internal talent by expanding technology, talent, and transition partnerships for rapid and affordable commercial and mil-Company ranked AFWERX implementation of Continuous DCMO-About.aspx

novators, alongside brands ma programs, directs technisuch as Microsoft. Google and cal oversight of the GAIN pro-Amazon. Additional informa- gram and collaborates with the tion is available at https://www. Air Force Program Executive afwerx.af.mil/.

About SAF/MG

SAF/MG is responsible for the overall supervision of matters pertaining to Air Force and Space Force management of business operations. This oversight includes management and advocacy of programs designed to improve management and execution processes across the enterprise. SAF/MG carries out enterprise-wide transformation initiatives and assoitary capability. In 2020, Fast ciated activities, and oversees

Ideas can be submitted to the #16 of Best Workplaces for In- Improvement/Lean Six Sig-Officer for Services and other Air Force, Space Force, Department of Defense, and federal sector organizations to eliminate contract redundancies, leverage efficiencies, lessons learned, and best practices for strategic sourcing. SAF/MG drives efficiency through effective transformation to enable more capable and lethal Air and Space Forces and is the DAF's champion for innovation, efficiency, and reform in DAF operations to en-

able readiness and lethality. https://usaf.dps.mil/ teams/10100/dcmohome/Pages/





Space Force.

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pabilities to support the mission.

AFMC, as the Servicing MA-





AIR FORCE

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FO CHOOSE FROM!

Tailwind 9

Air Force Materiel Command takes on role as servicing major command for Space Force

AFMC Public Affairs

WRIGHT-PATTERSON AIR FORCE BASE, Ohio — Air Force Materiel Command is adding on a new role as the designated Servicing Major Command for the U.S.

Recently the U.S. Air Force and U.S. Space Force took steps to define AFMC's role as the designated Servicing MAJCOM for the U.S. Space Force. These actions included a memorandum of understanding providing a strategic overview of support provided to the USSF by the USAF. And a protional support AFMC will provide to Airmen assigned to USSF who are supporting USSF installations

This unique and first-time Servicing MAJCOM structure was created to ensure Airmen assigned to the USSF receive the same force development opportunities, functional and administrative support as those at USAF In-

The USSF derives almost all its support from the USAF and its logistics, security, medical services, and a host of other common ca-

JCOM, will accomplish the roles and responsibilities traditionally performed by a MAJCOM for erating support for USSF installations. These MAJCOM functions typically include, but are not limited to, providing policy guidance, interpretation and, where applicable, waiver authority; professional development opportunities and guidance; developmental team representation: and ant Commands.

functional-specific roles. Approximately 8,000 USAF Airmen assigned to USSF installations and units will be serviced by AFMC.

Airmen at USSF installations will continue to be serviced by their local Military Personnel Flight and Civilian Personnel Office; and the Air Force Personnel Center will continue to provide service to all Airmen at USSF installations. The primary difference will be when most Airmen at USSF installations need MAJ-COM interaction, Headquarters AFMC 2-letter staff will assist them. Their MAJCOM Functiongramming plan outlining the func- al Manager will be at HQ AFMC.

USSF Guardians are not affected. Professional development and functional-specific support for USSF Guardians will be provided through the USSF Field Commands.

The Department of the Air Force is working toward a criteriabased initial operational capability in Fall 2021, working toward full operational capability in Fall 2022.

"We're honored to be able to provide support to the outstanding Airmen who are helping advance Airmen, including infrastructure, the U.S. Space Force mission," said AFMC Commander Gen. Arnold W. Bunch, Jr. "We're all in to ensure the success of the space mission and the Airmen assigned to the U.S. Space Force."

The USSF mission is to organize, train, and equip space forcthe Airmen providing base op- es in order to protect U.S. and allied interests in space and to provide space capabilities to the joint force. USSF responsibilities include developing Guardians, acquiring military space systems, maturing the military doctrine for space power, and organizing space forces to present to U.S. Combat-



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Air Force Surgeon General takes current pulse of Travis

Lan Kim 60TH AIR MOBILITY WING PUBLIC AFFAIRS

TRAVIS AIR FORCE BASE, Calif. — Lt. Gen. Robert Miller, Air Force and Space Force Surgeon General, and Chief Master Sgt. Dawn Kolczynski, medical enlisted force and enlisted corps chief, visited Travis Air Force Base, California, July 28, 2021, to better understand David Grant USAF Medical Center's various medical capabilities.

what Travis' medics are doing to maintain readiness in education and training, aerospace flight staging and medical readiness, hyperbaric medicine and chronic wound care, disaster and emergency medical oper-Affair medical care, aeromedical evacuation.

"It is truly impressive what you all are doing," Miller said

Kolczynski to witness first-hand directly to DGMC Airmen. not received a COVID-19 vac- said. "My commitment is to our "We're here because Chief and I want to understand your challenges, understand the good things you're doing."

Miller and Kolczynski also wanted to communicate their concerns directly to Travis' ations support, intensive care medics, given the gravity of a reunit operations, joint Veteran's surgence from COVID-19 and the delta variant.

"We need vour help," Kolczynski said.

They urged them to engage The tour allowed Miller and during an all-call speaking with friends and family who've lenges still continue," Miller

cine by having conversations about the importance of herd immunity if vaccine hesitancy exists within their inner circles.

It was not lost on Miller's mind that in an unprecedented year affected by COVID-19, the Airmen providing medical care at DGMC were at the forefront of the pandemic response.

"I am proud of everything our medics have accomplished, but our work is not done, and chal-

Airmen, and I want them to know that their leadership truly cares about them. Our strategies may evolve as the needs change, but at the center of it is our people. They are our most valuable asset, and they are what makes us a premier military medical force."

"We can't lose sight that it's Airmen at the center of that," Kolczynski said.





Right: U.S. Air Force Lt. Gen. Robert Miller, Air Force and Space Force Surgeon General, left, along with his executive assistant, Maj. Richard Smith, center, and Chief Master Sgt. Dawn Kolczynski, medical enlisted force and enlisted corps chief, walk outside of base lodging at Travis Air Force Base, California, July 27, 2021. Miller visited Travis AFB to gain a better perspective of David Grant USAF Medical Center's operational capabilities.

Below: Jennifer Thompson, 60th Inpatient Squadron critical care nurse, right, briefs U.S. Air Force Lt. Gen. Robert Miller, Air Force and Space Force Surgeon General, center, on current operations of the intensive care unit at Travis Air Force Base, California, July 27, 2021. (This photo has been altered for security purposes by blurring out patient names.)

Bottom left: U.S. Air Force Senior Master Sgt. Andre Heags, 60th Operations Support Squadron chief controller, tower, right, speaks with Lt. Gen. Robert Miller, Air Force and Space Force Surgeon General, center, and Chief Master Sgt. Dawn Kolczynski, medical enlisted force and enlisted corps chief, second from left, about his experience as an air traffic controller at Travis Air Force Base, California, July 27, 2021. Miller visited the air traffic control tower at Travis AFB after his tour at David Grant USAF Medical Center for a tower view of the flight line.

Bottom right: U.S. Air Force Lt. Gen. Robert Miller, Air Force and Space Force Surgeon General, second from right, meets with Col. Gwendolyn Foster, 60th Medical Group commander, second from left, at Travis Air Force Base, California, July 27, 2021. Miller and his team toured various sections of David Grant USAF Medical Center to gain a better perspective of its operational capabilities.



U.S. Air Force maj. Michael Broome, 775th Expeditionary Aeromedical Evacuation Flight infectious disease nurse, right, briefs Lt. Gen. Robert Miller, Air Force and Space Force Surgeon General, left, and Chief Master Sgt. Dawn Kolczynski, medical enlisted force and enlisted corps chief, center, inside a Negatively Pressurized Connex at Travis Air Force Base, California, July 27, 2021. The NPC is an isolated containment chamber designed to safely transport up to 30 passengers, 24 walking patients, or eight patients on a stretcher affected by infectious diseases such as the novel coronavirus.







U.S. Air Force photo by Lan Kim

12 TAILWIND



BY JIM GARAMONE

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DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE



An aerial view of the Pentagon, Washington, D.C., May 11, 2021.

DOD photo by U.S. Air Force Staff Sgt. Brittany A. Chas

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sinews holding all this together: Michelle LoweSolis, the director of Defense Civilian Person-"One of the things that I nel Advisory Service. "We're and most Americans automat- find so fascinating is that the really and truly one of the biggest civilian employers in the country."

> Your average citizen See OPPORTUNITIES Page 16





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AUGUST 6, 2021

14 TAILWIND



TRAVIS

U.S. Air Force photo by Staff Sgt. Christian Conrad

Vietnam

From Page 5

veterans of war.

The United States and Vietnam have grown closer because of their shared interests and belief that peace and prosperity in the region depends on a "free and open Indo-Pacific," Austin said. "We believe the region needs strong and independent Vietnam - a country that can defend its sovereignty and expand the prosperity of its people."

gion."

world."

Opportunities

From Page 12

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Bryan C. Scott, D.M.D.

/oted Best

Visit

From Page 3

folks are true professionals," Bickley said. "These Airmen led brilliantly through the COVID crisis and saved a lot of lives. It's a tough job, but they exhibit 'Excellence in All We Do' every day. I'm very proud of them."

The visit was punctuated by a senior noncommissioned officer induction ceremony that saw Bickley read the SNCO charge for the newly-minted master sergeants and with it, gave some advice for the future leaders of the Air Force.

"Are we a perfect Air Force?" he asked. "No. But we are the best Air Force in the world. So before you level criticism at our organization, we need to ask ourselves, 'What am I doing to make it better?' Look inward before outward. Am I asking my Airmen to do something that I cannot or will not do? At the end of the day, our young Airmen are the future of the Air Force and deserve during a tour of Travis Air Force Base, California, July 30, nothing but the best from their leaders."







DR. JEFFREY BROOKS Board Certified and Fellowship Trained Vascular Surgeon

U.S. Air Force Chief Master Sgt. Chad Bickley,

18th Air Force command chief, center, speaks with

representatives from the Phoenix Spark innovation cell

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AUGUST 6, 2021

clean-up efforts in Vietnam and will work to remove unexploded munitions left over from the Vietnam War. The U.S. will also continue to support disabled

The secretary wanted to get to the region earlier in his time in office, but COVID-19 restrictions prevented that. "For the secretary, this was a very important trip to make," Pentagon Press Secretary John F. Kirby told reporters travelling with Austin. "This is his first chance to engage in person in Southeast Asia. And as you know, this is a vital re-

It is a manufacturing heartland and a vital sea line with several choke points in the region. "Obviously, it's a part of the world where China continues to be very aggressive...," Kirby said.

Austin feels that it is important to meet with these partners. "He feels like that the reason for coming is absolutely validated in the discussions that he's having, and the reception that he's getting," the press secretary said. "Both in Singapore and in Vietnam, [he received a] very warm welcome, and there is a very genuine interest in having the United States be engaged in this part of the

secretary is getting a sense of the realities in Southeast Asia and the challenges these leaders face.



Austin himself said that he came to the region to Secretary of Defense Lloyd J. Austin III and Vietnamese Defense Minister Phan Van Giang bump elbows after the signing the listen to the leaders of these nations. Kirby said the Vietnamese Wartime Accounting Initiative Memorandum of Understanding between the two countries in Hanoi, Vietnam, July 29, 2021. Austin was on a weeklong trip to reaffirm defense relationships and conduct bilateral meetings with senior officials in Vietnam, Singapore and Manila, Philippines.

doesn't realize that you can ment and not wear a uniform,

Pentagon officials have built a website — www.dodciviliancareers.com — to correct this misperception. The website project's team lead said the site is primarily a recruitment tool; the website's purposes were to educate folks about civilian employment and help them explore where they might find their fit within

The idea began about two years ago, said Desiree Seifert, associate director for employment integration and strategic recruitment, at the service. "We knew we needed

needed to have more of a way of communicating. We reallv wanted to look at our website as kind of the central hub of that messaging."

The organization had website before, but it wasn't dynamic, Seifert said. "It didn't let people know who we are or the variety of positions that we have," she said. "It didn't specifically target certain groups to say, 'Hey, come on in and learn about us; here's why it would be interesting to you."

The site is designed to give those working with it different paths to explore. If someone knows they want to work for the Army, for example, the site will give them a pathway there. If they want to work in South Korea, it will show them opportunities there.

"If the person is not sure. we have avenues where to be more active in social me- they can look at our differdia," she said. "We knew we ent careers," said the website to begin."

project's team lead. There's also a job exploration tool that allows people to answer a few basic questions about their interests and background and get some tips on where they might start looking. "The site can show them opportunities already aligned with their backgrounds."

There are more than 600 civilian occupations in the DOD. There are all kinds of careers from scientists and engineers to artists to human resource personnel to intelligence analvsts to medical professionals. "If you want to fix aircraft, vou can do it." Seifert said. "If vou want to build ships, have at it. If you know talented individuals who want to make a powerful impact as DOD civilians, then www.dodciviliancareers.com is an excellent place

Discount

From Page 2

ShopMyExchange.com/Vets. Cardholders earn 2% in rewards points on their Military Star purchases - including at commissaries - and receive a \$20 rewards card every 2,000 points. Rewards

exclude military clothing. "Military shoppers are looking for ways to save," Travis Air Force Base Exchange General Manager Phonda Bishop said in a press release. "Military Star helps shoppers not only with this limited-time discount, but

food, fuel and more."

All of the Exchange earnings are reinvested in the military community, including funding for critical on-installation quality-of-life programs, according to the press release. When Travis Air Force Base shoppers use the Military Star card, the Exchange also saves on credit card transaction fees - savings that add up to millions of dollars a year worldwide, which allows the Exchange to better support Airmen and their families.

The Military Star card is administered by the Army & Air Force Exchange Service and is accepted at all military exchanges and comwith everyday savings on missaries. For more information, visit MyECP.com.

Tune to **AM 890** for up-to-date information on Travis Air Force Base happenings





Mobility Airmen instrumental in evacuating aircraft to safety ahead of Typhoon In-fa

By Ms. Amelia Dickson 515TH AIR MOBILITY OPERATIONS WING

YOKOTA AIR BASE, Japan — For six months each year, Airmen throughout the Indo-Pacific region are ready for typhoon season. During that time, the region's air terminals are on standby to receive aircraft from regions hit by winds up to 130 knots - or 150 mph.

Airmen were called to action this month when Typhoon In-fa threatened to hit Kadena Air Base, in Okinawa. Aircraft were evacuated to Yokota Air Base, Marine Corps Air Station Iwakuni, and Osan Air Base.

"It's always crazy when this happens," said Mr. Ernest Weber, air terminal manager at Yokota Air Base, located west of Tokyo. "It's not just the planes coming in from the typhoon area, it's also the planes that would be coming in on a daily basis."

The Yokota air terminal, managed by the 730th Air Mobility Squadron, helped to welcome eight additional aircraft from Kadena. Terminal staff developed a parking plan to ensure there was room for the incoming aircraft in addition to the ongoing daily missions. Airmen also provided stair trucks and fleet services — potable water and lavatory trucks.

The aerial port at Yokota typically handles between 20 and 30 missions each day, including Patriot Express missions. So, the additional eight aircraft were significant, Weber said.

But the effort was manageable thanks to the hard work of the air terminal staff — both Airmen and civilian employees.

The air terminal portion of the evacuation required a coordinated effort within the 515th

See EVACUATION Page 19

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PARTING SHOTS

Exchange

From Page 3

Base community." Commissary Agency stores.

The Military Star card also benefits cardholders with a rewards program based on purchases. The card issued \$32.8 million in rewards just last year, according to the press release. Other benefits include a set interest rate for all cardholders, regardless of credit score; discounts at Exchange fuel locations and at Exchange restaurants; and a reduced-interest deployment plan with no payments required for eligible customers.

visit MyECP.com.

Car show on calendar Aug. 13 at base museum

the base museum. The event starts at 10 a.m.

80, 461 Burgan Boulevard.

will be cooking out during the event.

planes on display outside the museum.

To register a class car, contact Jeff Allee at alleegto1@comcast.net.



The 730th Air Mobility Squadron, located at Yokota Air Base, welcomed eight evacuated aircraft from Kadena Air Base in July ahead of Typhoon In-fa. The aerial port also maintained normal operations, including Patriot Express missions,

Airmen called to

Evacuation

From Page 18

Air Mobility Operation Group, an Air Mobility Command (AMC) organization that oversees the 730th AMS, the 731st Air Mobility Squadron at Osan Air Base in Korea, and the 733d Air Mobility Squadron at Kadena Air Base.

The group also works closely with the air terminal at Marine Corps Air Station Iwakuni, also in Japan.

Most of the aircraft evacuated from Kadena Air Base belong to Pacific Air Forces (PACAF), necessitating cooperation between two different major commands.

"This effort illustrates that our squadrons and mission partners are equipped and ready to work together to keep global mobility missions added.

moving throughout the Pacific, even during extreme weather," said Col. Chris Kiser. 515th AMOG commander. "It also sends a clear message to our strategic competitors that we're a capable, robust and resilient

organization." Typhoon In-fa brought sustained winds of 34 knots (about 40 mph) and gusts of 42 knots (about 48 mph) to Kadena Air Base on July 21, according to the Joint Typhoon Warning Center. With Kadena Air Base being located in "Typhoon Alley," there's a good chance the 515th AMOG will need to repeat the drill this vear.

"We're used to it, it's part of normal life," Weber said. "It's what we expect in the summer."

"To us, they're just extra planes because we have a great team of professionals who are motivated to do their jobs," he



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By Daily Republic Staff

TRAVIS AIR FORCE BASE — Car enthusiasts are encouraged to show off their rides during the Freaky Friday Classic Car Show and Shine scheduled Aug. 13 at

and ends at 2 p.m. at the Travis Heritage Center, Building Members of the 921st Contingency Response Squadron

Organizers promote the event as an "extended lunch break" opportunity for those who work at the base. Those who visit the car show may also view the classic air-



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