

LIGHTNING

**By Senior Airman
Josh Clendenen**
21st SW Public Affairs

Lightning. You can't always hear it and you can't smell it. It just happens. One second the skyline is calm and motionless; the next second the day is pierced with a bolt of electricity with a temperature three times hotter than the surface of the sun.

In the United States, an average of 73 people are killed each year by lightning. That's more than the annual number of people killed by tornadoes or hurricanes. Many more are struck but survive.

Among those struck in the last 21 years, 48 people were struck in El Paso county and seven were killed.

One person who was recently struck by lightning but lived to tell about it is Senior Airman Luis Aguilar, 50th Mission Support Squadron at Schriever Air Force Base.

Aguilar was on his way to the Fitness Center when the lightning struck. He reached to open his car door

when the bolt struck the antenna of the vehicle. The electricity surged through him, knocking him out. Aguilar wasn't hurt in the strike, but the electrical system in his car was fried by the bolt.

"The safest place in an electrical storm is inside a building or your car. If you absolutely must move around outside, do so quickly and get back under cover as soon as possible," said Maj. Pat Goodman, 21st Space Wing Chief of Safety.

Being outdoors is the most dangerous place to be during a lightning storm. It puts you and your loved ones at increased and unnecessary risk.

When lightning is seen, thunder is heard, or when dark clouds are close by, it's best to move indoors or into a hard-topped vehicle and remain there until well after the lightning storm ends.

If lightning storms are forecast, have in mind an alternate plan for the day's activities or know where you can take cover quickly.

The lightning season in the United States corresponds closely with the traditional summer vacation period.

Throughout the summer, a lot



Photo courtesy of NOAA photo library

A cloud-to-ground lightning bolt strikes during a nighttime thunderstorm. A lightning bolt is three times hotter than the surface of the sun. Lightning is caused when electrically charged particles in cloud formations cause a flash to occur.

more people are exposed to the deadly effects of lightning in locations such as a beach, golf course, mountains, or ball fields.

Another lightning strike Aug. 31 happened on the base golf course.

A bolt of lightning struck a tree near the 18th green and almost split the tree in two. Just one week earlier, lightning struck a tree top between the sixth and seventh holes.

"Golfers are particularly susceptible to lightning strikes since they are often in open areas some distance from shelter," said Goodman.

Although anywhere outdoors involves risk during a lightning storm, certain locations such as water, trees, high and open places are more at risk for lightning strikes during the storm.

"If you are outside and see lightning approaching, don't wait for offi-

cial word to suspend activities since official word may not reach you in time. Lightning is very difficult to forecast so people must be aware of severe weather approaching and take action on their own," said Goodman.

In an effort to educate people on base about the dangers associated with lightning, Headquarters Air Force Space Command and the Air Force Academy will have a lightning safety seminar Sept. 12 in the Hartinger building at 2:30 p.m.

For more information, call Senior Master Sgt. Phil Brown at 554-5706.

To learn more about lightning safety online go to

www.lightningsafety.noaa.gov.
(Information courtesy of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration)

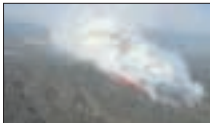
Lightning Safety Rules:

1. Go quickly inside a completely enclosed building or hard-topped, all-metal vehicle.
2. Do not take shelter under a tree.
3. Avoid being the tallest object in the area. If only isolated trees are nearby, crouch on the balls of your feet in the open, keeping twice as far away from a tree as it is tall.
4. Get off bicycles and motorcycles.
5. Get out of the water, off the beach and out of small boats. If caught in a boat, crouch down in the center of the boat.
6. Avoid standing in puddles, even

if wearing rubber boots.

7. Avoid open spaces, wire fences, metal clothes lines, exposed sheds and electrically conductive elevated objects.
8. Do not use metal objects like golf clubs, fishing rods, tennis rackets and tools, or lean against vehicles.
9. Do not work on fences, telephone or power lines, pipelines or steel fabrications.
10. Avoid congregating in groups. Do not hold hands with others and space yourself several yards from one another.

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Straight Talk Line 556-9154

Call the 21st Space Wing Straight Talk Line for current information on wing events and exercises.



Courtesy photo

20 years since USAFE bombing

Photo of U.S. Air Forces in Europe headquarters in the aftermath of a bomb explosion Aug. 31, 1981, at Ramstein Air Base, Germany. Fourteen people were injured in the terrorist attack.

Commentary: The Legacy of Gen. Mike Ryan

By Brig. Gen. Ron Rand

Director of Public Affairs

Thursday was a big day for our Air Force. At 9 a.m., Gen. Michael E. Ryan, who has been our chief of staff for the past four years, retired and Gen. John P. Jumper became our 17th chief of staff. It was an exciting and important moment in our history — the end of one era and the beginning of another. After all the farewells and thanks, General Ryan departed, and amid all the welcomes and congrats, General Jumper took the stick. His priorities as our top uniformed officer will be readiness, retention and transformation, and together with Dr. Jim Roche, our secretary, General Jumper will work hard to make sure we remain the world's greatest aerospace force.

In one of his final media interviews, General Ryan was asked what he thought his legacy would be. In typical fashion, he downplayed talk of his own accomplishments, focusing on those of the Air Force team instead. That's the way he is; for him, the Air Force, and Air Force people, come first, in every decision he makes and every action he takes. He leads us from that position, with clear vision for the future, abiding passion for our institution, and unbridled compassion for our people.

When he became chief of staff, General Ryan saw a need to return to our expeditionary roots, and embarked us on the transition to today's expeditionary aerospace force. He knew readiness and retention were our biggest near-term problems, and he set out to correct disturbing downward trends in both. Most importantly, he recognized that our strength is in our people — that the best equipment in the world is just machinery without bright, dedicated, enthusiastic, patriotic, well-cared-for Americans to operate and maintain it. And he dedicated himself to making us one force, one family — to taking care of our people.

It's our people he cares about the most — every single one of them. In every crisis, and in every decision, he makes sure our first action is to take care, both institutionally and personally, of the people affected. His interest extends beyond the active duty force, to the Guard and Reserve, to our civilians and contractors, to our retirees, and — especially — to

our families. It comes from his unshakable belief in the premise that we're an Air Force family and a family Air Force, and from his unbending commitment to the promise that we take care of own. For him, it's all about leadership.

General Ryan believes leadership is a team sport, that it should not be personalized, and that good ideas are best when they don't have a single identity ... so his leadership style focuses on group ideas and team accomplishments, rather than on him. He begins meetings with a request that everyone participate, because more input will result in better decisions, and because everyone working together is better and smarter than any one could be. He encourages collaboration and cooperation in all things, and sets the example in his teamwork with our secretary and with our sister services. And he's a great communicator.

The chief recognizes the importance of telling our story — to our airmen, to the media, to the public, and to Congress — and he personally tackles the big and tough communication challenges. He also believes leadership is all about communicating, so he restored the chain of command as the primary information source for Air Force people. He has one hard-and-fast rule: when telling our story, our credibility with public and internal audiences depends on openness and honesty — absolute integrity and truth need to be our watchwords. Nothing more, nothing less. He calls it, "blabbing the truth."

In the last four years, we've become a much better Air Force, playing a much larger role on the world stage. We've built stability into our expeditionary operations ... arrested readiness ... restored our retirement ... worked retention and recruiting hard to maintain the quality of our force ... increased bonuses ... got pay raises ... fought for our people at every turn ... and so much more. General Ryan would tell you that's what the Air Force leadership team has been up to these past four years. That he would say that is the unique and selfless legacy of this third-generation airman, aviator, leader and patriot who has spent his whole life in the Air Force and who retired Thursday with more than 36 years of active duty service to this great nation of ours — General Mike Ryan.

SECAF says hail and farewell

The Air Force bade farewell on Sept. 6 to a friend, an exceptional leader, and a champion of Air Force standards and quality of life. We also hailed on this day a new chief of staff, selected by President Bush and confirmed by the United States Senate, to preside over the total Air Force team as our highest uniformed leader.

Gen. Michael E. Ryan dedicated more than 36 years of his life to our Air Force — he sacrificed much and succeeded at all he did along the way. Our grateful nation and our superb Air Force are the beneficiaries of his exceptional leadership, his focus on improving quality of life for all airmen and their families, his innate sense of excellence, and his dedication to successfully transform us toward a fully expeditionary aerospace force.

His legacy is a bright and promising future for aerospace power and all airmen on the total Air Force team, including our active duty, Air National Guard, Reserve, retirees, veterans, and families. It has been an incredible honor and a pleasure for me to have had the opportunity to serve with Gen. Mike Ryan. To me, he epitomizes the leader's ethic: my mission; my men; and only then, myself.

Gen. John P. Jumper, our new chief of staff of the Air Force, brings an impressive background and broad experience to the job of helping to lead our total Air Force team onward in this new century. Somewhat like General Ryan's, his family ties to our service extend as far back as the Army Air Corps. His experience transcends both the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans, with more than 1,400 combat hours in two Southeast Asia tours, and two full assignments in Europe. Having already proven himself a wise counsel and superlative leader at Air Combat Command, I am truly looking forward to serving with General Jumper in the months and years ahead. Our bright future awaits. Together with everyone else on our team, General Jumper and I will work to pilot the journey that will take us there.

On behalf of the total Air Force team, I bid fond farewell with profound appreciation to Gen. Mike Ryan, and congratulate and welcome Gen. John Jumper, our 17th chief of staff.

Dr. James G. Roche
Secretary of the Air Force

Action line

Submitting Action Lines

The Action Line (556-7777 or by fax: 556-7848) is your direct link to me. It provides an avenue for you to voice concerns over unsolved problems, share good ideas or provide some constructive criticism.

As a reminder, the Action Line is not a replacement for using your chain of command. Action Lines can help make the Peterson Complex and the wing a better place to live and work.



Brig. Gen. Bob Kehler

Q. Why are the children at the day care center allowed to sleep past 3 p.m.? I have brought this to the attention of the management on several occasions and nothing has been done about it. My child sleeps until 3 or 3:15 p.m. and afternoon snacks should be given at 2 p.m. Thank you.

A. Thank you for bringing this matter to our attention. The children at the Child Development Center sleep between noon and 2 p.m. The providers begin waking them up at approximately 2 p.m. and the children get ready for their afternoon snack, which is served at 2:30 p.m. It is not the center's policy to let the children sleep beyond 2:30 p.m. unless they are ill and waiting to be picked up or the parents have asked us to allow them to sleep later. A manager or designated representative is monitoring classrooms to ensure that children are not allowed to sleep beyond 2:30 p.m. We have reminded our staff to follow the center's policy and adhere to the lunch and snack schedule. If you have any questions, please call Dylia White or Porfirio Canales at 554-9573. Thank you.

C-130 crews continue fighting wildfires

Idaho, Oregon fire crews along with Nation Guardsman fight fire from the air

By John Van Winkle
U.S. Air Force Academy Public Affairs

Members of the 302nd Airlift Wing are assisting guardsmen and reservists from four states who set aside their regular jobs and personal lives, donning flightsuits to battle the nation's wildfires from the air.

Air National Guard and Air Force Reserve C-130 Hercules aircrews are into their second week of aerial firefighting efforts.

Joining the C-130 crews are 44 civilian aircrews and more than 21,700 firefighters and support people on the ground in seven states. Their efforts and recent rainfall in the Pacific Northwest have helped reduce the number of large active fires from 40 to 21. When the military aircrews arrived, 450,000 acres were burning compared to 204,854 acres as of Aug. 27, according to the National Interagency Fire Center.

The aircrews' tools to battle the blazes include the C-130 and the Modular Airborne

Fire Fighting System. The airborne firefighting system, better known as MAFFS, is a series of highly pressurized tanks designed to be loaded onto a C-130 Hercules and expel fire retardant out of the airlifter's cargo ramp.

Normally, the low-level training standard for C-130s is 300 feet, but firefighting missions require crews to fly in at 120-to-150 feet above the ground. Crews face rising heat and smoke, reduced visibility and thinner air just to reach their drop sites.

During the six- to eight-second drop, MAFFS-equipped C-130s spew 27,500 pounds of red fire retardant from the highly pressurized tanks, covering an area 100 yards wide and a quarter of a mile long.

The U.S. Forest Service owns the MAFFS equipment. Military assistance is requested when fire levels can't be handled by civilian crews alone, said Col. Rich Moss, commander of the 302nd.

There are four military units that have firefighting capability, said Moss.



Photos by Capt. Dave Condit

Even the inside of the C-130 Hercules needs a bath. The red fire retardant coats everything it comes into contact with.

Along with the 302nd reservists, Air National Guard airmen are deployed from the 153rd Airlift Wing, Cheyenne, Wyo.; the 146th Airlift Wing, Channel Islands Air National Guard Base, Calif.; and the 145th Airlift Wing, Charlotte, N.C. The National Interagency Fire Center requested the activation of the MAFFS-equipped C-130 units on Aug. 14 and 16. The first aircraft arrived and Klamath Falls, Ore., Aug. 17.

"The first couple of days that they were here, they were flying quite a bit," said Rose

Davis, spokeswoman for the National Interagency Fire Center.

Crews flew over eastern Idaho and down into Utah.

"We even set up a reloading base down in (Ogden) Utah so they could continue to do shorter trips rather than flying all the way back here," said Davis who believes the military aircrews are making a difference.

The aviators' role in the firefighting effort is one of augmentation and blocking. First, the Guardsmen and reservists are in place to augment the civilian aircrews.

Forty-four civilian aircraft and eight military aircraft are used to drop retardant, Davis said.

"The reason we only have eight military is that we only have eight of those units that slide in the back [of the C-130s]," he explained.

For the military crews, their role in augmenting the civilian airmen leaves them standing alert, not knowing whether they will be flying in an hour or remain waiting throughout the day.

"While the mission is risky, we'd all rather be flying than sitting there not knowing when or if we might fly," said Capt. Dave Condit, a navigator with the 302nd and a U.S. Air

Force Academy instructor. "Sometimes we fly all day, every day, and sometimes we sit for days at a time. We never know what each day will bring."

When the call does come, the crews are ready to work.

"Most of these guys are pretty seasoned," said Staff Sgt. Patrick Gamble, a loadmaster with the 145th AW and a civilian insurance agent. "You've got some old hands, as they are called, that fight the actual fires most of time. But they're trying to get some of us newer fellows out to fight the actual fires when the opportunities come up."

The MAFFS crews have been supporting firefighting efforts since 1974. Their most active firefighting efforts were during the 2000 fire season when six million acres burned in 71,150 separate fires—double the annual average. As a result of last year's extensive taskings, this year's airborne firefighting efforts are patterned into an air expeditionary group structure.

Prior to the AEG concept, the deployed units had limited authority to integrate and prioritize military MAFFS operations because they supported various state and federal agencies in charge of portions of the firefighting efforts.



A C-130 Hercules, dwarfed by the fire it is there to stop, drops retardant to create a fire break ahead of the oncoming blaze.

Space Observer

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Local OSI detachment aids DEA in drug case spanning two states

OSI agents share information with feds leading to more than \$1.3 million in cash, mass amounts of drugs

By Maj. Mike Richmond
AFOSI Public Affairs

Special agents from the Air Force Office of Special Investigations Detachments 808, which supports Peterson Air Force Base, and 803, which supports the Air Force Academy, worked in cooperation with local law enforcement officials here and in California to arrest and charge 55 defendants Aug. 29 for alleged drug offenses, thanks in part to information provided to the Drug Enforcement Agency by OSI agents.

Asa Hutchinson, administrator of the DEA, and Richard T. Spriggs, U.S. Attorney for the District of Colorado, announced the arrests at a press conference Aug. 30, at which time AFOSI's contributions were recognized.

Specifically, AFOSI agents provided DEA agents the names and activities of civilians not affiliated with the mili-

tary who were suspected of supplying illegal drugs to Air Force people. The information had been developed by AFOSI agents investigating illegal drug use at Peterson, Cheyenne Mountain and the Academy.

"It's our normal practice to share this type of information with our civilian law-enforcement counterparts, in this particular case, we started by sharing what we knew with the DEA and the Colorado Springs Police Department," said Special Agent Gary Triplett, commander of AFOSI's Region 8.

Soon, the DEA invited other agencies to get involved, and regular information-sharing sessions commenced in November. Some of the agencies included the Boulder County Drug Task Force, the Colorado Springs and Denver Police Departments, and the Boulder District Attorney's Office.

"It's really nothing new for our agents to share information with their civilian law-enforcement counterparts, although the scope of this effort was larger than normal," Triplett said. "Other than that, this type of inter-agency cooperation is routine for us."

Less routine, however, were the sizeable number of arrests and confiscation of evidence that followed.

According to a press release from

the U.S. Department of Justice, all-day enforcement actions Aug. 29 netted about 85,000 Ecstasy tablets, 2.5 kilograms of cocaine, 320 pounds of marijuana and 4,100 marijuana plants, five pounds of methamphetamine, 40,000 dosage units of LSD, 13 vehicles, 36 weapons, and more than \$1.3 million in U.S. currency.

While operational security prevents describing the exact nature of AFOSI's support, a U.S. Attorney's Office official said agents' information helped DEA agents identify significant suspected drug suppliers to users and street-level traffickers.

"The information from OSI led to critical linkages of key players," said Jeff Dorschner, spokesman for the

District of Colorado U.S. Attorney's Office. "It helped us confirm and solidify some of what we already suspected, and ultimately it helped lead to the identification of other suspects. The OSI was very helpful, very eager to team up to help us out."

The AFOSI cases that led to discovery of the alleged civilian suppliers were run by Detachment 803, which supports Peterson and Cheyenne Mountain, and Det. 808, which supports the academy.

Those cases eventually identified a total of 27 military people as suspects. All 27 of those cases are closed.

Thirteen suspects have already been court-martialed, and the remainder are in various stages of legal resolution.

"It's our normal practice to share this type of information with our civilian law-enforcement counterparts, in this particular case, we started by sharing what we knew with the DEA and the Colorado Springs Police Department."

Special Agent Gary Triplett
AFOSI's Region 8 commander



1st CACS provides space surveillance, protection from inside Cheyenne Mountain

The 1st Command and Control Squadron is located in Cheyenne Mountain. As of Oct. 1, they tackled an expanded mission, transitioning from performing a side mission in the USSPACECOM Space Control Center to executing the entire space surveillance and protection mission for USCINCSpace.

Ten-member operational crews carry out the surveillance and protection mission in the SCC. The space surveillance mission consists of detecting all new space launches from anywhere in the world. Once a launch is detected, the crew tracks the objects with a worldwide sensor network made up of 22 radar and optical tracking stations. The crews then identify each piece of the launch (payloads, rocket bodies, platforms and pieces of debris) and catalog them in the world's only complete satellite catalog. The SCC will continue to track all objects until they reenter the earth's atmosphere or are sent into a super-synchronous orbit.

1st CACS also maintains the Space Analysis Center. The SAC provides an abundance of support to the SCC's surveillance mission. Examples of some of the SAC's services are providing information from owner operators on upcoming launches, assisting with difficult satellite orbits, and calibrating the worldwide sensor network. They also provide information to agencies throughout the world. For example, the SAC updates the entire satellite catalog on the 1st CACS web site every week. This web site catalog has 195 subscribed users that range from satellite owners to universities around the world. The site provides its users with valuable information for collision avoidance, laser testing and space availability in specific orbits.



Courtesy photo

Cheyenne Mountain Air Force Station, home of the 21st Space Wing's 1st Command and Control Squadron.

By knowing where all objects in space are located, the SCC can protect them against specific threats. These threats include electromagnetic interference, solar phenomena and laser clearing as well as intentional threats against ground control and relay stations of the satellite itself. However, the most important protection mission the SCC has is the protection of our manned spaced programs. This includes the astronauts on board the shuttle and the astronauts living on the International Space Station. The SCC provides this protection through a process

called "collision avoidance." This process entails the crew drawing an imaginary box around the manned object and "flying" it out 72 hours into the future. If any other object in space enters the imaginary box, the SCC notifies the National Aeronautics and Space Administration. NASA then will use the information provided to determine whether to move the shuttle or ISS. To date, NASA has moved the shuttle 11 times and the ISS 4 times as a result of the information the SCC provided them.

(Courtesy of 1st CACS)

Payroll deductions for delinquent travel cardholders

Government to take up to 15 percent for bills more than 120 days overdue

By Staff Sgt. A.J. Bosker
Air Force Print News

WASHINGTON—In October, the Defense Finance and Accounting Service will begin involuntary payroll deductions for almost 8,000 Air Force people who are more than 120 days delinquent on their government travel charge card accounts.

These deductions, up to 15 percent of a person's disposable income, will help Bank of America recoup the millions of dollars that cardholders owe on

their past due accounts, said Michael Weber, Air Force Travel Card Program manager at the Pentagon.

"Last month alone, Bank of America wrote off \$161,000 from delinquent Air Force cardholders," Weber said.

Before any payroll deduction begins, Bank of America will notify each cardholder, once an account reaches 90 days past due, and offer them one of two options to settle the account before the payroll deductions begin, said Col. Gregory Morgan, Air Force accounting, banking and comptroller support director at the Pentagon.

"The first option is a one-time payment to bring the account current," Morgan said. "The second option, for those financially unable to pay the account in full, is to enter into a written agreement with Bank of America to make voluntary monthly payments."

By voluntarily settling a past due account, Bank of America will permit the cardholder to restore their government travel charge card privileges, Weber said.

However, if a cardholder defaults on these agreements or does not make arrangements with the bank to settle the account, the unpaid account balance will be submitted to DFAS for immediate involuntary payroll deduction, Weber added.

This will result in the permanent termination of all government travel charge card privileges for the offending cardholder.

Additionally, Bank of America will begin reporting all delinquent government travel charge card accounts to the credit bureaus.

"This financial irresponsibility by Air Force members greatly impacts their ability to travel and to accomplish

the mission," Morgan said.

Morgan said increased unit oversight of the travel charge card program is needed to help combat current and future account delinquencies.

"When commanders are more cognizant of their unit's program, we see a much lower delinquency rate among Air Force members," he said. "As more commanders have become involved, we have dropped from a 12-percent delinquency rate to one much closer to the nationwide delinquency rate among Visa and Master Card users."

"Although the Air Force has reduced the number of its delinquent accounts, the lowest among any service, we still have a long way to go," Weber said.

"It's really up to the person entrusted with the government travel charge card to do the right thing—pay for what you use."

AFSPC announces 2002 Vigilant Eagle board results

By Capt. Lorinda A. Frederick
AFSPC Directorate of Personnel

PETERSON AIR FORCE BASE, Colo. - The commander of Air Force Space Command recently announced the results of the Vigilant Eagle 2002 Operations Squadron Commander Selection Board held here Aug. 16-17.

Gen. Ed Eberhart identified 65 lieutenant colonel and lieutenant colonel-select candidates from an original field of 195 officers. The 65 candidates will now compete for 31 projected space and missile squadron command position openings in 2002.

The board considered all aspects of the officers' records and duty histories to include demonstrated leadership, leadership potential and professional development.

In his charge to the board members, Eberhart emphasized the Space Commission's recommendation of creating a space professional

"While we will always need commanders who are firmly grounded in operations, we agree with the commission's concept of cross-flowing people from the space acquisition and R&D [research and development] communi-

ty," he said.

Vigilant Eagle 2002 board results mirror the Space Commission's recommendation. Of the 65 candidates, there are 51 space and missile (core 13S) candidates, eight developmental engineering (core 62E) candidates, five acquisition (core 63A) candidates, and one space and missile maintenance (core 21M) candidate.

Operations squadron commander selections will be announced in mid-October. Candidates not selected for command during the initial process will remain eligible throughout 2002 for unprojected squadron commander requirements.

Board members included the AFSPC vice commander, the Space and Missile Center commander, AFSPC's director of operations, the Space Warfare Center commander, the 14th and 20th Air Force commanders, the National Reconnaissance Office senior Air Force officer, all AFSPC wing commanders or vice commanders, and Air Education and Training Command's 381st Training Group commander.

Board membership was expanded this year to include SMC and NRO representation.



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Air Force personnel offices merge, enhance leadership options

By Master Sgt. Rick Burnham
Air Force Print News

On paper, the merging of two major Air Force personnel offices in the Pentagon appears to simply be a matter of combining similar tasks, of streamlining an area in which one unit can do the job of two.

But, Air Force officials said, the combination of the General Officer Matters Office with the Senior Executive Service Matters Office Sept. 1, will result in much more than just a transparent, organizational shift. The resulting unit will provide the Air Force with an enhanced capability to manage its senior leaders – a better avenue to put the best people in the positions they need to be in.

“The merger of these two offices is a landmark effort,” said Col. Richard S. Hassan, chief of AFGOMO. “It will better prepare us to realize the vast potential of our Air Force leaders.”

Hassan, who will head the new Senior Leader Management Office after the merger, said the change will give the Air Force a number of advantages over the old system.

“It will not only allow us to better use our leadership team, but will also allow us to develop that team more deliberately,” he said. “This will lay a solid foundation, giving us a bigger pool of talent to meet the challenges of the future.”

Dr. James Roche, secretary of the Air Force, agreed with the colonel, adding that the new structure will provide a number of different benefits for the Air Force of the 21st century. He noted that the merger was the vision of Gen. Michael E. Ryan, who retires as Air Force chief of staff Sept. 6.

“This combination will help us realize one of General Ryan’s goals as chief of staff – to build an enduring, unified cadre of aerospace leaders,” the secretary said. “In today’s total Air Force, we simply must identify, develop and motivate talented individuals, military and civilian, to fulfill the missions of our Expeditionary Aerospace Force. By merging our General Officer and Senior Executive

Service programs, we will enhance operating efficiencies and reduce costs, while dramatically boosting ‘cross-cultural’ awareness among officers and senior civilians in the Air Force.

“The development of leaders who understand the requirements of our Total Force – active military, civilian, guard, reserve, and contractor personnel – will serve as yet another tangible hallmark of the tremendous contributions that Mike Ryan has made to his country during his military career.”

Currently, AFGOMO provides “lifecycle” management of Air Force flag officer corps, from the point they are selected for promotion to brigadier general until their retirement. That includes all assignments, awards, housing and enlisted aid matters – essentially any personnel matter that would involve a general officer, Hassan said.

AFSEMO provides policy guidance and assistance for the management and administration of the SES Corps with the civilian personnel flights around the Air Force handling the day-to-day operations.

Combining the two offices will essentially do two things for the Air Force, Hassan said.

“This will send a strong message to the force that we definitely consider both general officers and SES civilians as part of the senior leadership of the Air Force,” he said. “It also gives us the capability to more effectively use our leaders’ various talents. In the future, we will look at certain challenges – jobs – and we’ll be better positioned to find the most competent, talented individual to handle the task at hand.”

Hassan used a sports analogy to explain the benefits of the new organization.

“A baseball team does not need nine pitchers – it needs shortstops and catchers and right fielders too,” he said. “Instead of having half the team on one side and the other half on the other side, we’re combining the two so that we can better choose the right people for the right jobs. It takes experts at every position to make a great team.”



— EAGLE, From Page 6

That underscored the importance of cross-flowing officers from those organizations and emphasized AFSPC’s commitment to building space professionals.

Experience demographics reveal that of the 65 candidates, nine have NRO experience, four have developmental engineering experience, four have acquisition experience, and eight have both developmental engineering and acquisition experience.

A briefing on the board results will soon be presented to AFSPC staff, space wings and other affected organizations.

For more information on Vigilant Eagle, call Capt. Frank Mills at (719) 554-3470 or DSN 692-3470, or Capt. Shane Clark at (719) 554-2690 or DSN 692-2690. People can also visit the Vigilant Eagle Web site at <https://midway.peterson.af.mil/2letters/dp/vigilanteagle.htm> or email questions vigilant.eagle@peterson.af.mil or mailto:vigilant.eagle@peterson.af.mil.

Order of the Sword tickets

Gen. Ed Eberhart, Air Force Space Command commander, has been selected for induction into the Order of the Sword Sept. 28. Tickets to the Order of the Sword ceremony are \$30 and can be purchased from the following points of contact:

HQ AFSPC - Staff Sgt. John Fukushima 554-5160	Master Sgt. Gary Oldham 567-9018
HQ NORAD /USSPACECOM - Staff Sgt. Elvin Sanders 554-2519	Buckley AFB - Master Sgt. Lennie Axelson DSN 877-6843
Cheyenne Mountain - Staff Sgt. Bryan Daniel 474-355	21st Space Wing - Any 21st SW chief master sergeant
Space Warfare Center -	50th Space Wing - Master Sgt. Christopher Barilli 567-5714

DoD seeks to expand new relationship with Russia

By Jim Garamone
American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON - The new relationship the United States would like with Russia will be furthered by eliminating the Anti-ballistic Missile Treaty, said a DoD policy official Aug. 28.

J.D. Crouch, assistant defense secretary for international security policy, said the United States is not averse to arms control pacts, but will use them where appropriate and act unilaterally where appropriate.

Crouch, whose portfolio includes Europe, the former Soviet republics and the Balkans, spoke at a roundtable with the press.

The 1972 ABM Treaty is at the heart of the new relationship the United States wishes to establish with Russia. Russian President Vladimir Putin said Russia considers the pact a cornerstone in U.S.-Russian relations. President Bush believes the pact has outlived its usefulness. Bush wants to establish a limited ballistic missile defense system, and the treaty forbids this.

"President Bush wants to move beyond the treaty," Crouch said. "We'd prefer to do it in cooperation with Russians. The ABM Treaty ensconces an adversarial relationship rooted in the Cold War. It's based on the idea that there is stability in the ability of the United States and Russia to blow one

another up. We think that is not an appropriate relationship for a new relationship with Russia."

The United States wants both countries to withdraw from the pact. U.S. officials believe the threat no longer comes from Russia, but from rogue states seeking to build ballistic missiles and weapons of mass destruction. To combat this, the United States wants to build a limited ballistic missile defense system that will defend the United States, its allies and U.S. deployed forces.

The United States does not want to amend the ABM Treaty. "One of the issues we're dealing with is that we don't have an architecture [for ballistic missile defense]," Crouch said. "We don't have a set number of missiles we want to deploy. We don't have a set series of technologies that we definitely know we're going to implement.

"What we do have is a robust test and development program that is designed to solve specific technical issues and present the president with technologies and deployment options he or a future president can decide on."

No knowing exactly what a system would look like makes it impossible to negotiate any changes in the

treaty. "We can't say today whether we're going to be defending with ground-based interceptors, airborne lasers or sea-based systems," Crouch said.

The United States does want to cooperate with allies in the system. As the treaty is now written, the United States cannot share missile defense technology with allies.

Crouch sees arms control efforts, counterproliferation efforts and the missile defense system as "complementary."

The administration is looking where arms control can be valuable and where it hinders U.S. interests. "This is rather than taking the position that any and all arms control approaches are, by definition, the way to reduce threats to the United States, to reduce threats to our allies and to cooperate on them," Crouch said.

The changing threat works against formal arms control agreements. He said the first Strategic Arms Reduction Treaty took 10 years to negotiate and covers hundreds of pages of technical data, protocols and annexes. "There's a sense ... that this will not allow us to make the kinds of adjustments to our own forces and, that we think the

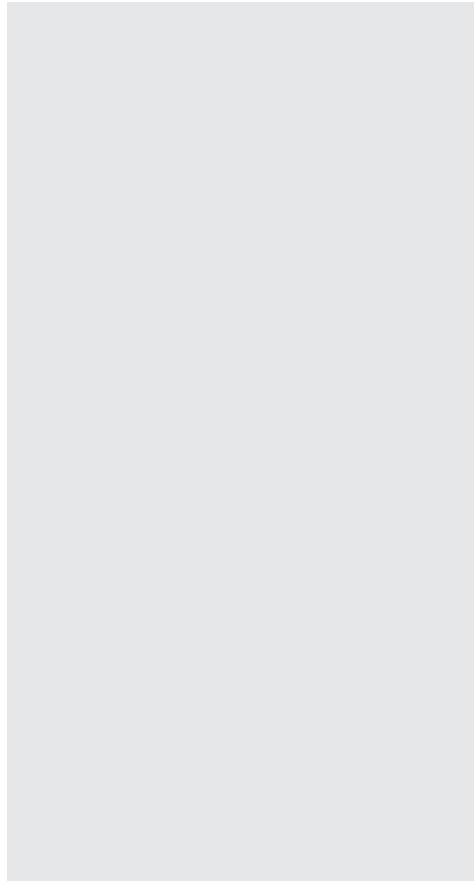
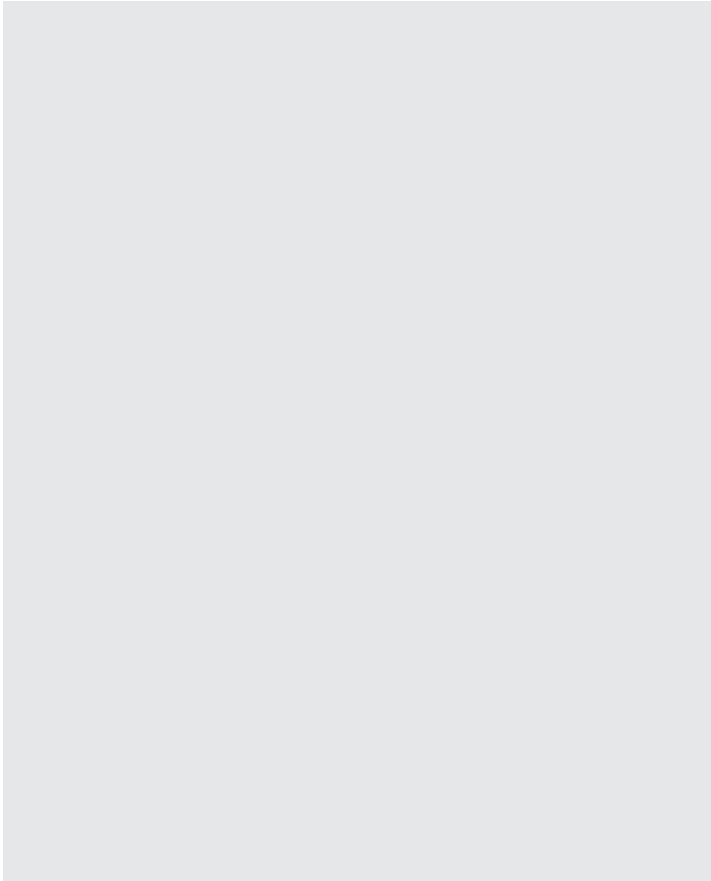
Russians would want to make to their forces, in the timeframes required," he said.

Crouch said one of the best aspects of President Bush's program is the move away from a National Missile Defense program toward a system designed to protect the United States, its allies and U.S. deployed military forces. "I think that makes sense from a military standpoint, but I think it makes sense from a diplomatic and political standpoint, [too]," he said. "We really regard this ballistic missile threat as something not aimed peculiarly at the United States. It's something that can affect our interests almost anywhere. There was some sense in some European capitals that the National Missile Defense focus had an isolationist impulse to it."

He said the program's new emphasis gives the United States another way for the country to engage with allies.

"The [ballistic missile] threat doesn't know borders," he said. "In the near term, it is more focused overseas."

The Russians, European and Asian allies should have as much of an interest and concern in the emerging ballistic missile threat as the United States. The rogue nations are nearer their population centers. "We need to explore responses to those common threats," Crouch said.



Today

- Mothers on the Move, 9:30-10:30 a.m., at the Family Advocacy Center.
- Cash drawings, 5-7 p.m., at the clubs. Must be members.
- Yoga, 12:05 p.m., at the Fitness Center.
- Fun run, 11:30 a.m., at the Technical Support Facility, Cheyenne Mountain.

Saturday

- Bowling Center open, 3-11 p.m.
- Make-up Safety Meeting with the Aero Club, 10 a.m., in the Ground School Room.
- Indoor soccer starts, 9 a.m.- 1 p.m., at the Youth Center.

Sunday

- Grandparents bowl free with family members.

Monday

- Flag football coaches meeting, noon, at gym # 2

Tuesday

- The NAF Resale Store is open, 9 a.m.-2 p.m. Call 556-4876 for details.
- Sponsorship training, 7:30-8:45 a.m., at the Family Support Center. The training is required for all military and civilian sponsors.
- Keystone Club meeting, 6 p.m. at



Photo by Airman Jessica Sanchez

Back to basics

The 21st Communications Squadron, both airmen and civilian, marched to the commanders call on Aug. 31. The flight formed up in front of the communications building and marched across the street into the Officers' Club for a commander's call. The march was directed by Col. Selva, 21st Support Group commander, for an interesting way to lead into the Labor Day weekend.

the Youth Center.

- Karate, 5-7:30 p.m., at the Youth Center.

Wednesday

- Mothers on the Move, 9:30-10:30 a.m., at the Family Advocacy Center.

- Story time, 10 a.m., at the Library.
- Framing Class, 5-9 p.m., There is a \$25 fee.

Thursday

- Karate, 5-7:30 p.m., at the Youth Center.
- Job orientation class, 1-2:30 p.m., at the Family Support Center.
- Career marketing class, 8 a.m.-noon., at the Family Support Center.
- Wear a flag pin and bowl three games for the price of two.
- Homework help, 5-7 p.m., at the Youth Center.

Sept. 14

- Cash drawings, 5-7 p.m., at the clubs. Must be members.
- Yoga, 12:05 p.m., at the Fitness Center.
- Mothers on the Move, 9:30-10:30 a.m. at the Family Advocacy Center.

Helpful Numbers

- Family Advocacy Center 556-8943
- Education Center 556-4064
- Library 556-7462
- Community Center 556-7671
- Aquatics Center 556-4608
- Fitness Center 556-4462
- Officers' Club 556-4181
- Enlisted Club 556-4194
- Youth Center 556-7220
- Family Support Center 556-6141
- Chapel 556-4442

Community Notes

Community News

TAILGATE PARTY: The 21st Space Wing tailgate parking spot is open to anyone who wishes to use it for all home games.

For details, call 556-7917. The pass is available on a first-come, first-served basis.

DONUT SALE: The Pikes Peak Chapter of the Air Force Cadet Officer Mentor Action Program will have a donut sale at the base exchange Sept. 15, 9 a.m.-2 p.m.

For details, call 554-6029.

AUTO SKILLS CENTER: The Auto Skills Center now offers emissions testing and VIN verification, Monday - Friday, 8 a.m.- 5 p.m. only.

For questions, contact Calvin at 556-4481

LIBRARY CLOSURE: The library will be closed September 14-26 for the installation of new carpeting. Books must still be returned on due date and should be placed in the book drop boxes outside the library.

For details, call 556-7462.

ASIAN AMERICAN/PACIFIC ISLANDER EMPLOYMENT: The next meeting for the Asian American/Pacific Islander Employment Program will be Wednesday, 3 p.m., in the building 350 atrium.

For details, call 567-4501.

HOUSEHOLD WASTE COLLECTION: The El Paso County Household Chemical Waste Collection Program will collect items such as cleaning products and automotive products.

Items will be collected today, 1-4 p.m., and Saturday, 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Only senior citizens are allowed to drop off items today.

Volunteers are needed both days. Lunch will be provided. For details on volunteering, call 575-8450.

FINANCE WEBSITE: The 21st Comptroller Squadron has a new finance website. The address is <https://halfway.peterson.af.mil/21SW/21CPTS/Index.htm>

OFFICERS' WIVES CLUB: The Peterson Officers' Wives Club will have an ice cream social Tuesday, 6:30 p.m., at the Officers' Club.

For details, call 338-7936.

Youth Center

INDOOR SOCCER: The Youth Center is accepting registrations for indoor soccer through Sept. 14.

To register, contact Les Stewart at 556-7220.

FLAG FOOTBALL: Flag football registrations will be accepted through Nov. 5.

To register, contact Les Stewart at 556-7220.

COACHES CLINIC: There will be a coaches clinic for the indoor soccer season Sept. 24, 6 p.m., at the Youth Center.

PUNT, PASS, KICK: The Punt, Pass and Kick competition will be Sept. 22, 9:30 a.m., at the youth baseball fields.

Volunteer Opportunity

YOUNG MARINES: The Colorado

Springs Chapter of the Young Marines is looking for volunteers from any service to instruct and support young adults in the program.

For details or to volunteer, call Jo Ann or Vern Bowen at 596-7817.

PLAYGROUND: The Colorado Springs Parks and Recreation Division, along with local charities, needs volunteers to help build a playground.

The "Fantasy Playground", located in Cottonwood Creek Park, will be built Sept. 14-17.

For details, call Nikki Laughlin at 556-9268.

Vote

ON BASE VOTING: The base voting officer reminds everyone that state elections are coming up.

To find out what elections are happening in different states, log on to the Federal Voting Assistance Program website at www.fvap.ncr.gov.

Recreational Classes

FRAMING CLASS: The Community Activities Center will have a framing class Sept. 19, 5-9 p.m.

There is a \$25 fee and you must be at least 13 years old.

For details, call 556-1732.

Ticket discounts

CAC DISCOUNTS: The Community Activities Center has a number of tickets for local activities at a discounted price.

Call 556-7671 for details.

Chapel Schedule

Protestant Services

Liturgical Worship
8:15 a.m.

Traditional Sunday
Worship
11 a.m.

Gospel Services
12:30 p.m.

Sunday School
9:45 a.m.

Catholic Services

Mass
Weekdays

11:35 a.m.

Saturdays
5 p.m.

Sundays
9:30 a.m.

Reconciliation
Saturdays

4 p.m.

Religious Education

Adult and
pre K-12th grade

Sundays
8:30 a.m.



**By Senior Airman
Josh Clendenen**
21st SW Public Affairs

The Air Force Falcons had their wings clipped by the University of Oklahoma Sooners in the season opener Sept. 1.

The Falcons fell 44-3 to the national champions.

The Falcons starting quarter back, Keith Boyea, had a

rough start.

He ran for 80 yards on 19 carries, but consistently overthrew his receivers, completing 11 of 23 passes for 112 yards. Boyea was replaced in the fourth quarter by Bryan Blew, but it was too late for the Falcons.

Their next game is Saturday against Tennessee Tech. The kick-off will be at noon.

ABOVE: A University of Oklahoma running back is mobbed by Air Force Falcons defenders during the season opener Sept. 1.

RIGHT: After the Falcons scored a field goal the cadets do the traditional push-ups.

BELOW LEFT: A couple of true-blue Air Force Fans get in the spirit of the game.

BELOW RIGHT: Falcons quarter-back Keith Boyea passes the ball downfield before he is hit by Brandon Moore a linebacker for OU.



All systems go

Team 21 member and family get VIP treatment during space shuttle Discovery launch

By Staff Sgt.
Melanie Epperson
21st SW Public Affairs

Air Force astronaut Col. Scott J. Horowitz, shuttle commander mission STS-105, chose a 21st Space Wing airman to be his special guest for the Aug. 10 launch of the Space Shuttle Discovery.

Airman 1st Class Michael McAarty, 21st Operations Support Squadron operations resource manager, traveled to Cape Canaveral, Fla., to view the launch. He brought his mother, father and brother with him, and together they took a VIP tour of the launch pad and shuttle guided by an astronaut John B. Herrington. They also toured the John F. Kennedy Space Center.

McAarty has been in the Air Force two and a half years and works in flight records.

"Since this is Space Command and we don't really have any planes, I keep track of all 26

Air Force astronauts' flight records, including T-38 flights and shuttle simulator time," he said.

After going TDY to the Lyndon B. Johnson Space Center in Houston, Texas, and working a few of the flight records issues there, McAarty received an e-mail from Horowitz inviting him and his family to come to Florida and watch the launch from a special area reserved for VIPs.

McAarty said the launch was an exciting experience.

"This is an opportunity most people will never have, and I experienced it because I'm in the Air Force," the Indiana native said.

Discovery's 12-day mission was to transport the Leonardo multi-purpose logistics module to the International Space Station. The module carried experiments, scientific equipment, food and water supplies. The station's third resident crew members also traveled up on the shuttle.



Photo courtesy of NASA

Space shuttle Discovery lifts off Aug. 10, beginning mission STS-105 to bring equipment and the third resident crew to the International Space Station.

Dollars for IDEAs

Four Team 21 members earned rewards in August from the Innovative Development through Employee Awareness program.

The Air Force IDEA Program is an incentive program to reward submitters for their ideas if they benefit the government by improving processes, productivity and efficiency or improving morale or conditions.

Master Sgt. Jane E. Borchert, 2nd Space Warning Squadron, was awarded \$200 for her idea to use IMPAC cards to pay for expressway tolls in government vehicles.

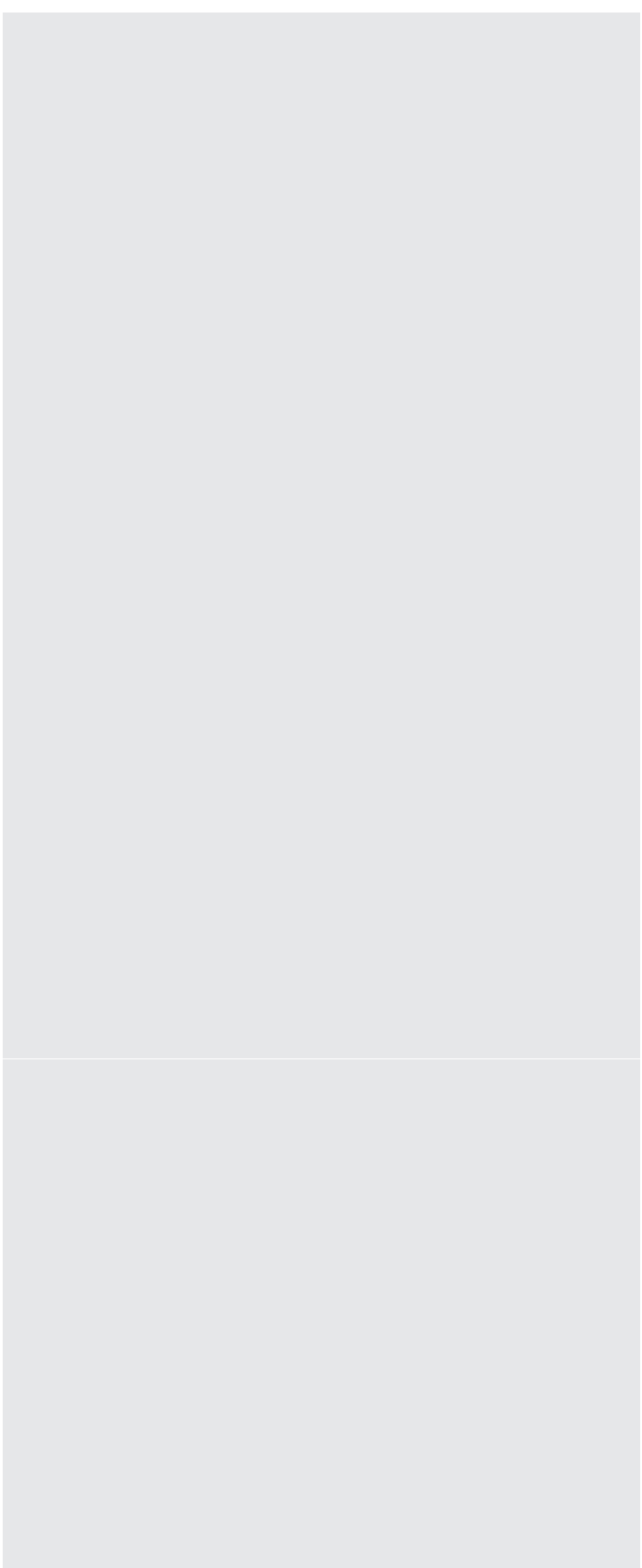
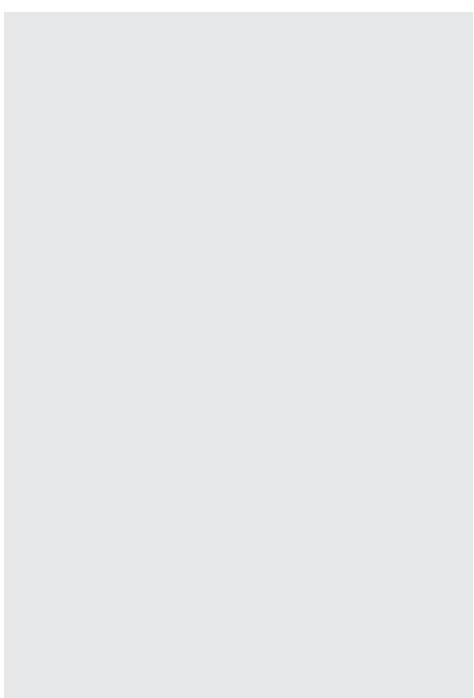
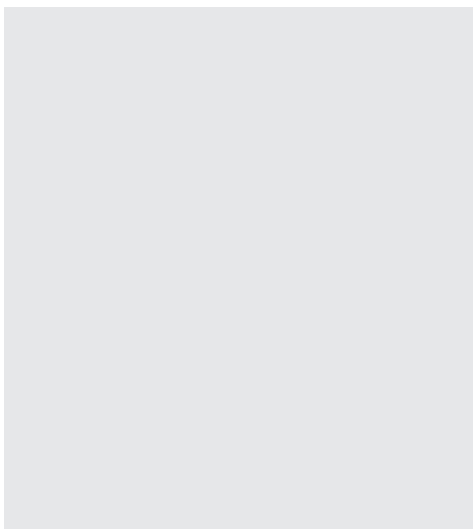
William Welborn,

Headquarters Air Force Space Command Civil Engineer Directorate, was awarded \$200 for his idea for energy efficient roofs.

Donald Meaney, 10th Dental Squadron Laboratory, was awarded \$200 for writing a guide to standardize and abbreviate dental restorative options and modifications.

Marlene Kelley, HQ AFSPC Performance Management, was awarded \$200 for her idea to update the evacuation plan for the Hartinger Building.

For more information about the IDEA program, visit <https://ideas.satx.disa.mil>.



Decision Paralysis

Experience can mean the difference between success and failure

By Capt. Anagyros Economou
21st SW Plans and Programs

August 1983: The searing afternoon heat created an expansive illusion of an ocean across the flight line at Altus Air Force Base, Okla. The temperature reached a sweltering 102 degrees. Unfortunately for us, we were in the middle of a major force generation exercise at the 443rd Military Airlift Wing instead of beating back the heat in the comfort of our air-conditioned dorms.

I had just pinned on my "mosquito wings," and I was quite proud of them. I finally had stripes on my sleeves. My mobility augmented duty was as a transportation operations center runner. In the midst of this mind-numbing force generation exercise I noticed a very young staff sergeant directing the logistics portion of the force generation exercise, loading war reserve material kits on C-5s and C-141s. It seemed nothing was going right with the force generation, at least from where I stood.

This staff sergeant, for the next 12 hours, bellowed out orders and directed the operation with a calm, authoritative ease despite several problems which I thought had the ability to cripple the wing's force generation capability. Overcoming numerous obstacles, the wing met its wartime requirement. We generated sorties with life-sustaining cargo and deployed to forward operating locations.

I came away from the exercise with the clear understanding that the attributes shown by this staff sergeant and his ability to rapidly make critical decisions to ensure the success of the wing's force

generation capability.

June 1987: The pressure on my lungs was unbearable! I wondered why I was stuck several thousands of miles away from the great state of Texas (home) in a plastic suit wearing a mask, barely able to breathe. It felt as if I was losing body weight, drop-by-drop, exercising as a member of the Guam Base Reconstitution and Recovery Team, 43rd Bombardment Wing, Andersen Air Base, Guam.

Our objectives were clear: wait out a mock attack on Andersen AB, concealed by the surrounding jungle, and reconstitute the wing's ability to generate B-52 sorties. The heat and humidity were unbearable and the last thing I wanted to do was to play war games wearing "chem" gear.

Suddenly, the base inspector general ran an attack scenario on the BCRT. The lieutenant leading us took it in stride and started getting what information he could.

The clock was ticking and the security forces Armed Response Team was eager to take action. The L.T. was still trying to decide how to respond to the threat. Too late! The BCRT was declared incapacitated within 30 minutes of the attack.

The after-action report stated the Andersen AB runway sustained moderate damage. A dozen B-52s which were on alert managed to launch toward their targets. Several B-52s were destroyed or damaged on the ground, and a handfull were unable to generate because of the run-

way damage.

Of course, with what little information I had, I was smart enough to realize we had no way to generate the remaining sorties because of the destruction of the BCRT. The wing needed to put together another team to generate sorties. It cost us valuable time. I came away from this exercise with a valuable lesson: too much information and failure to make a quick decision can have devastating repercussions.

Decision Paralysis: I've been troubled over the years by a recurring question: Why is one person able to make a rapid decision while another person seems to freeze, or makes a decision too late for it to be an effective action?

The answer lies in a concept called decision paralysis. Before we get into decision paralysis, let's scope the problem. The major challenge we have with decision-making is uncertainty. An ideal decision-making environment includes having all correct information, and every possible option laid out in front of you.

Unfortunately, in the real world that's not the case. We almost never have all of the information we need to make a decision with utmost certainty. Certainly some information may be downright wrong. And we often have to come up with options on our own. As a result, most decisions involve an undeniable amount of risk. How we handle this risk determines whether we make rapid

and effective decisions or fall prey to decision paralysis.

How do we overcome uncertainty and stamp out decision paralysis?

Here are some things that cause decision paralysis:

-Having more information than you need to make a good decision. Too much information causes forgetfulness. Usually the information we first gather is pushed out the door and forgotten.

-Disregarding your own or others' experience gained in previous situations.

-Not knowing what you want to accomplish and, thus, making a list of decisions and asking, "Which one should I choose?" Next time ask, "What is my goal?"

-Looking for the perfect decision. Here is what you need to know to stamp out decision paralysis:

-Experience! Experience! Experience! To make rapid and effective decisions, get all the experience you can and let those who work for you get as much experience as possible so they can learn. Experience allows you to size up a situation and to recognize the best course of action.

-Know what you want to happen as a result of your decision. Make that your goal.

-Get the facts. Keep in mind the time limits and your ability to process facts.

How do you know if your course of action is the right one? Your experience over time will lead to what seems an innate intuition. The

great decision-makers don't compare options. They automatically take these mental steps:

-Make a decision and test it via a mental simulation.

-Evaluate simulation results: Was it successful? If not, move on to the next option.

-Evaluate options on their own merits. Don't ever compare options. Novices compare options. Masters come up with a decision and rapidly assess it. Great decision-makers move fast because they do less.

If you work in a group and the group must make a decision, should you do anything different? Yes. After the group makes its decision, perform what I call a "time warp."

Ask each member to pretend it's a year from now. The decision the group made was bad, and the project failed. Take three minutes and write down why you think the project failed. This exercise allows you to uncover potential problems so you can fix them as the project unfolds.

So, how can you move fast like great decision-makers? Accelerate your experiences so you can build the memories that will allow you to make faster, better decisions. Seek every opportunity to make decisions. Don't be afraid of the tough ones.

Experience won't weigh you down, it will free you and help you become a rapid, effective decision-maker.

Star Performer



Name: Senior Airman Mantangi D. Johnson
Unit: 721st Security Forces Squadron
Job Title: Avalanche Flight Security Controller
Hometown: Killeen, Texas
Time in Service: 3 years, 2 months
About Johnson:

The 721st Security Forces Squadron, Cheyenne Mountain Air Force Station, is Johnson's first duty assignment after graduating from the Security Forces Academy at Lackland Air Force Base, Texas. As a security forces member, he is responsible for the protection of one of America's most vital national resources, the Cheyenne Mountain Complex. Johnson's supervisor, Tech. Sgt. Keith Quick, considers him one of the sharpest airmen in the squadron. According to Quick, Johnson's dress and appearance is always impeccable, and he is an example to all and a leader among his peers.

Johnson's primary duty is as Avalanche Flight Security Controller, a position he trained and qualified for as an airman first class. This critical position is normally reserved for senior airmen and staff sergeants.

His skills were recently put to the test when a suspicious package was discovered inside Cheyenne Mountain. Johnson took charge of the situation and made all the necessary notifications quickly and accurately. He established cordons and directed the Explosive Ordnance Disposal Teams and K-9 handlers to the scene. According to his supervisor, his confidence on the telephone and radio kept both on-site security forces and evacuating personnel calm and focused on the mission at hand.

The results of his actions were a quick, orderly, safe evacuation of the area; an expedient identification and removal of the suspicious package; and a rapid return of Cheyenne Mountain personnel to their mission. Johnson's performance was praised by the security forces commander and operations officer.

Johnson's "five year plan" is to complete his degree and apply for commissioning through the Officer Training School.

He enjoys playing basketball, going to church, and listening to his favorite music.

Award winners



Two 20th Space Surveillance Squadron members were named winners during the Eglin Air Force Base quarterly awards breakfast this quarter. Senior Airman Theresa Hardy was named Eglin Airman of the Quarter and Roger Prescott received Civilian of the Quarter. The 20th SPSS winners competed against representatives from 54 other squadrons assigned to Eglin AFB.

Sports

Shorts

Fun Run - Cheyenne Mountain Air Force Station is holding a 5K fun run today. Cost is \$1 per person, and race time is 11:30 a.m. Meet in front of the technical support facility. Call 556-1515 for more information.

POW/MIA Fun Run - The run is scheduled for Sept. 14. Cost is \$10 per person for those who want a shirt or \$1 just to run. Shirts are limited. For more information, call 556-1515.

Volleyball Tournament - Game times are between 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. Sept. 17-20. Cost is \$10 per 8-man roster team, and deadline for registration is Monday. Call 556-1515 for details.

Bike Ride - Meet in front of the fitness center Sept. 21 for a 10K bike ride. Cost is \$1 per person, and helmets are required. Call 556-1515 for more information.

Wallyball Tournament - Game times for the 4-on-4 wallyball tournament Sept. 24-27 are between 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. Cost is \$10 per team, and deadline for registration is Sept. 17. Call 556-1515 for more information.

Coaches meeting - A flag football coaches meeting will be held Monday at noon in gym 2. Call 556-4475 for more information.

Challenge patches - Earn 14er Challenge patches, one for each of the 56 Colorado peaks on the climbing wall at the fitness center. Call 556-1515 for more information.

Yoga - Class meets every Friday at 12:05 p.m. Wear comfortable clothing so you can stretch freely to build strength and flexibility. Call 556-1515 for details.

Personal trainers - Personal Trainers are available for Peterson Complex members. For more information, call 556-4462.

Singles racquetball tournament - There is a singles racquetball tournament scheduled for Oct. 9-11. Cost is \$5 per person. Deadline for registration Oct. 2. Game times are between 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. Call 556-1515 for more information.

5K Fun Run - There will be a 5K fun run Oct. 5. Cost is \$1. Deadline for registration and start time is 11:30 a.m. the day of the race. Meet in front of the fitness center. Call 556-1515 for more information.

Singles racquetball tournament - There will be a singles racquetball tournament Oct. 22-25. Cost is \$5 per person. Deadline for registration is Oct. 15. Games will be played between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m. Call 556-1515 for details.

5K Fun Run - There will be a 5K fun run Oct. 12. Cost is \$1 per person. Start time is 11:30 a.m. Meet in front of the technical support facility. Call 556-1515 for more information.

Doubles tennis tournament - There will be a doubles tennis tournament Oct. 22-25. Cost is \$10 per team. Deadline for registration is Oct. 15. Game times are 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.



Courtesy photo

Racquetball tourney

Ray Scott follows through on his swing during a singles racquetball tournament Aug. 22 while Robert Scott stands ready to go in the background. Ray Scott placed first in the tournament. Robert Scott tied for second place with Jim Jenista and Sammy Payne.

Booster launch successful

VANDENBERG AIR FORCE BASE, Calif.—An Air Force team here successfully launched a prototype rocket motor booster system Aug. 31. The booster is intended for future use with the Ballistic Missile Defense Organization's Ground-based Midcourse System.

The purpose of this test was to verify booster and system performance, officials said. There was no intercept attempt.

This launch was conducted by men and women from the 30th Space Wing, the Ground Based Interceptor Program Office and Det. 9 of the Space and Missile Systems Center.

The booster carried a mock exoatmospheric kill vehicle to simulate the mass and weight of an actual EKV to be used during future intercept tests. The first intercept test using the new booster configuration is planned for 2003.

(Courtesy of Air Force Space Command)



Photo by Staff Sgt. Richard Freeland

An Air Force team from Vandenberg Air Force Base, Calif., successfully launched a rocket motor booster from the base Aug. 31. The purpose for the test was to verify booster and system performance. The first intercept test using the new booster configuration is planned for 2003.

Space operator creates missile art

By 2nd Lt. Virgil Magee

Air Force Space Command Public Affairs

The Air Force Art Program began more than 50 years ago as a way to capture Air Force history through paintings.

Originally, Air Force officials contacted the Society of Illustrators in New York and asked if any of its members would like to travel to Air Force bases around the United States in return for creating artwork of historical value.

Through the years the majority of submissions focused on aircraft. Since there are few paintings with space or missile themes Air Force Space Command officials began seeking artists, about a year ago, to donate work and add to their portfolios.

"We thought one of the best ways to get more space and missile art was to seek it from within the command," said Skip Bradley, Air Force Space Command historian. "We wanted artistically talented people familiar with the space command mission to submit work."

One of the first submissions came from Capt. Joseph R. LeMay, a missile operations officer from the 576th Flight Test Squadron at Vandenberg Air Force Base, Calif.

He decided to paint an Atlas missile and donate it to the command.

LeMay, who has been painting with oils and watercolors since he was a child, was excited when he heard about the opportunity to donate work to the Air Force Art Program.

"I always wanted the Air Force to appreciate the thousands of men and women who had dedicated their lives to the Intercontinental Ballistic Missile program," LeMay said. "Everywhere I look I see Air Force art. But I rarely see anything showing our missile contributions."

When LeMay went to Squadron Officer School he was amazed to learn that a lot of his fellow airmen did not know the Air Force had ICBMs on alert for the past 50 years. That is when he decided to submit his work.

"I was more than happy to paint the Atlas," LeMay said. "I encourage other artists willing to donate their time and efforts to create missile art for the Air Force."

Because the AFSPC mission is so diverse — from missiles to space launches to satellite operations — and the amount of existing art is limited, artists interested in working with the command are essentially starting with a fresh canvas.

"Artists who submit work retain the intellectual copyright on their artwork," said Scott Wirz, AFSPC History Office Museum and Art Program manager. "This means artists are free to profit from any prints of their original work. Also, by having their works placed in high-profile areas such as an Air Force headquarters they can enhance their portfolios."

Artists interested in donating work can call the AFSPC History Office Museum and Art Program manager at (719) 554-3081.



Photo by Capt. Joseph Lemay

An example of Capt. Joseph R. LeMay's artwork. LeMay, a missile operations officer from the 576th Flight Test Squadron at Vandenberg Air Force Base, Calif., paints space and missile artworks for the Air Force Art Program.