



Weather

Friday  Sunny High 75°F Low 50°F	Saturday  Partly Cloudy High 82°F Low 55°F
Sunday  Partly Cloudy High 83°F Low 60°F	Monday  Partly Cloudy High 83°F Low 63°F

Forecast provided by the 14th OSS Weather Flight

News Briefs

Veterans Family Day

The Veterans Family Day event is from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. May 10 at the Airman and Family Readiness Center. This event will inform veterans about services available to them through the Tuscaloosa VA Medical Center and the Birmingham Vet Center. In addition the Lowndes County Veterans Services Officer and Dept. of Veterans Affairs contractor will be available to answer questions. Food will be provided. For more information please call 434-2790.

CCAF Graduation

Several Team BLAZE members are graduating with their Community College of the Air Force degree at 3 p.m. May 13 at the Columbus Club.

BLAZE Fest

Come on out and enjoy fun in the sun at the Columbus Air Force Base BLAZE Fest May 14 in Freedom Park. This family-friendly event will have a DJ, live bands, a petting zoo and more along with family events, games, rides, pony rides, kids water activities and international exhibits. This event is free except for food and beverages, and is open to military ID card holders.

Inside



Feature 8

The 14th Security Forces Squadron is highlighted in this week's feature.



Maj. David Williams, Specialized Undergraduate Pilot Training Class 16-08 graduate, hands a gift to Col. John Trnka, Jr., Commander, 940th Wing, Beale Air Force Base, California, during the graduation ceremony April 29 at Columbus Air Force Base, Mississippi. Trnka spoke about three topics that would not only help graduates advance their career, but also develop them as people.

Trnka outlines three themes for SUPT graduates, Airmen

Airman 1st Class John Day

14th Flying Training Wing Public Affairs

The 940th Wing Commander from Beale Air Force Base, California, visited Columbus Air Force Base, Mississippi, as the guest speaker for Specialized Undergraduate Pilot Training

Class 16-08's graduation April 29 at the Kaye Auditorium.

Col. John Trnka, Jr., began by thanking the graduates, Col. John Nichols, 14th Flying Training Wing Commander, and the support staff before speaking at the graduation.

See TRNKA, Page 2

COLUMBUS AFB TRAINING TIMELINE

PHASE II				PHASE III				IFF				WING SORTIE BOARD			
Squadron	Senior Class	Squadron Overall	Track Select	Squadron	Senior Class	Squadron Overall	Graduation	Squadron	Senior Class	Squadron Overall	Graduation	Aircraft	Required	Flown	Annual
37th (17-02)	0.61 days	1.18 days	May 17	48th (16-09)	-0.96 days	1.26 days	May 20	49th (16-HBC)	0.93 days	2.24 days	June 1	T-6	403	367	17,949
41st (17-03)	2.49 days	3.04 days	June 8	50th (16-09)	0.21 days	-0.34 days	May 20					T-1	138	120	5,875
												T-38	144	134	5,838
												IFF	60	56	2,421

The Specialized Undergraduate Pilot Training Class 16-09 graduation will be May 20, 2016.



14TH FLYING TRAINING WING DEPLOYED

As of press time, 48 TEAM BLAZE members are deployed worldwide. Remember to support the Airmen and their families while they are away.

Deployment numbers provided by the Installation Personnel Readiness Office.

TRNKA

(Continued from page 1)

He spoke on three themes important not only for pilots to keep in mind, but all Airmen.

“Nobody takes care of you like you, and I don’t mean that in a selfish way,” Trnka said. “What I mean is most of the things in your life are going to be outside of your control. What I am asking you to do is control the things you can. Only you can make yourself get out of bed in the morning. Only you can make yourself become an expert at your job. Control your attitude toward success.”

Trnka then explained “taking out the trash,” and perseverance.

“There will be days where it feels as if there is nothing you can do to further the mission,” Trnka said. “You will feel like you just can’t make any progress fighting the same battles. Even something as simple as taking out the trash is progress. Those who are willing to push past frustration and continue forward are the ones who become the best leaders.”

He spoke about his interactions with new Airmen before they go to basic training. He told them although it would be a difficult new life to live, they should have fun and enjoy it.

“This is a hard job,” Trnka said. “What you have decided to do is tough. Simply rais-

“There will be days where it feels as if there is nothing you can do to further the mission,” Trnka said. “You will feel like you just can’t make any progress fighting the same battles. Even something as simple as taking out the trash is progress. Those who are willing to push past frustration and continue forward are the ones who become the best leaders.”

ing your right hand and swearing to defend our constitution and our ideals is tough and rare in this world. All of this is going to be tough, but have fun and enjoy the camaraderie of your squadron and take joy in everything you are privileged to do.”

Silver Wings

How to reach us

14th Flying Training Wing Public Affairs
555 Seventh Street, Suite 210,
Columbus AFB, MS, 39710
Commercial: (662) 434-7068
DSN: 742-7068
Fax: (662) 434-7009
E-mail: silverwings@us.af.mil

Editorial Staff

Col. John Nichols
14th Flying Training Wing
Commander

Mr. Sonic Johnson
Chief of Public Affairs

Senior Airman Kaleb Snay
Editor

Airman 1st Class John Day
Staff Writer

Mrs. Tina Perry
Layout Designer

Submission Deadline

The deadline for submitting copy for next week’s SILVER WINGS is noon Monday. Articles may be dropped off at the public affairs office or e-mailed.

Published by the Commercial Dispatch Publishing Company, Inc., a or endorsed by, the U.S. government, the Department of Defense or the Department of the Air Force.

The appearance of advertising in this publication does not constitute endorsement by the DOD, the Department of the Air Force or Service Publications, Inc., of the products or services advertised.

Everything advertised in this publication shall be made available for purchase, use or patronage without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, marital status, physical handicap, political affiliation or any other non-merit factor of the purchaser, user or patron.

Editorial content is edited, prepared and provided by the 14th Flying Training Wing Public Affairs Office of Columbus AFB, Miss.

The SILVER WINGS staff reserves the right to edit or rewrite all copy submitted when necessary. All photos are U.S. Air Force photos unless otherwise stated.

Submit all advertising to the Columbus, Miss., Commercial Dispatch advertising department one week prior to desired publication date. The advertising department can be reached at (662) 328-2424.

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat/Sun	Long Range Events
9	10 Wing Newcomers Orientation, 8 a.m. @ Club Veterans Family Day, 11 a.m. @ AFRC	11	12	13 Fitness Mini Expo, 11:30 a.m. @ Fitness Center CCAF Graduation, 3 p.m. @ Club	14/15 14th - BLAZE Fest Fun Run, 8 a.m. @ Freedom Park 14th - BLAZE Fest, 11 a.m. @ Freedom Park	May 25: 16-10 Assignment Night May 27: AETC Family Day May 27: Independence Pool Opens May 30: Memorial Day May 31: Wing Newcomers Orientation May 31: Enlisted Promotions
16	17 SUPT class 17-02 track select, @ Phillips	18	19 Enlisted Dorm Dinner, 5 p.m. @ Chapel Annex	20 SUPT Class 16-09 graduation, 10 a.m. @ Kaye	21/22	June 3: Dodgeball tournament June 7: Air Force Officer Qualification Test June 9: 41st FTS Change of Command June 10: SUPT Class 16-10 graduation June 16: 14th MSG Change of Command June 21: Wing Newcomers Orientation June 28: 14th CES Change of Command June 30: Enlisted Promotions

NEWS AROUND TOWN

May 6
Mississippi University for Women Choral Concert starts at 7:30 p.m. in the MUW's Poindexter Hall, Kossen Auditorium. The event is free and open to the public. For more information visit online at visitcolumbusms.org.

Columbus. For more information contact Main Street Columbus at 328-6305.

May 6-7
The 21st Annual Market Street Festival is in downtown

May 14
Grand Opening of the Farmers Market season starts and is open throughout the growing season: Mondays, 4-6 p.m.; Thursdays, 7-10 a.m.; and Saturdays, 7-10 a.m. For more information contact Main Street Columbus at 328-6305.

BARGAIN LINE

The deadline for submitting ads is noon Monday before the desired publication date. Ads turned in after the deadline will run the following week. Ads can be mailed to or dropped off at the public affairs office in the 14th Flying Training Wing Headquarters building, e-mailed to silverwings@us.af.mil or faxed to 434-7009. Calling Ext. 7068 by noon Monday can extend the run date of ads already submitted. Silver reserves the right to limit ads based on content,

space and frequency of requests. Advertisements for private businesses or services providing a continuous source of income may not appear in the Bargain Line. They may, however, be purchased through The Commercial Dispatch, 328-2424.

EZ Bole Regal three wheel adult bike \$250; Shark floor cleaner mop with two pads for \$8; six shelf book case \$20. All items are in good shape, for more information, call 328-3977.

Miscellaneous

For Sale: Several items for sale: Pro form whirlwind dual action stationary bike for \$150; Health rider for \$200;

For Sale: 1978 Triumph Spitfire with extra parts and hard top, \$3,000. For more information call 549-5188 or 434-7317.

GuideDog Foundation
For The Blind, Inc.
371 East Jericho Turnpike
Smithtown, NY 11787
1-800-548-4337
www.guidedog.org
a CFC participant Provided as a public service

RENT-A-SPACE
406 Wilkins Wise Rd.
www.columbusrentspace.com
662-327-5656



A \$25.00 donation will be made to www.woundedwarrioroutdoors.com on behalf of any CAFB Personnel who rents a storage space.

Quarterly awards ceremony distinguishes great performers

14th Flying Training Wing Public Affairs

The 14th Flying Training Wing's best of the best were showcased during the first quarterly awards ceremony of 2016 April 29 in the Kaye Auditorium.

- The Team BLAZE first quarter award winners are:
- Airman of the Quarter:** Airman 1st Class Samuel Miller, 14th Medical Operations Squadron
 - NCO of the Quarter:** Technical Sgt. David Banks, Squadron, 14th MDOS
 - SNCO of the Quarter:** Master Sgt. Richard Babb, 14th Operations Support Squadron
 - CGO of the Quarter:** 1st Lt. Amber Evans, 14th Security Forces Squadron
 - FGO of the Quarter:** Maj. Jeffrey Lederhouse, 81st Fighter Squadron
 - Honor Guard of the Quarter:** Airman 1st Class Tyler Wise, 14th SFS
 - Flight Commander of the Quarter:** 1st Lt. John Oms, 14th Comptroller Squadron
 - IP of the Quarter:** Maj. Benjamin Smith, 41st Flying Training Squadron
 - Cat. 1 Civilian of the Quarter:** Gerald Werner, 14th Civil Engineer Squadron
 - Cat. 2 Civilian of the Quarter:** Scott Shuttleworth, Wing Staff Agencies
 - Cat. 3 Civilian of the Quarter:** Thomas McMurdy, WSA
 - Volunteer of the Quarter:** Airman 1st Class Brittani Amavizca-Waddington, 14th MDOS
 - Make Every Dollar Count Team of the Quarter:** Operations Group – B Flight, 48th Flying Training Squadron



The 2016 first quarterly awards winners or their representatives pause for a photo on stage at Kaye Auditorium April 29 on Columbus Air Force Base, Mississippi. The ceremony honored the wing's outstanding professionals for the months of January through March 2016 whose drive, determination and dedication have earned them this recognition.

DUCKS UNLIMITED
JOIN TODAY!
ducks.org
800-45-DUCKS

Mom 2 Be
...Not your mother's maternity store!
Have you heard the news?
We are now accepting Tricare prescriptions for breastpumps & accessories!!!



"I was able to get my breastpump and supplies thru Mom 2 Be with total ease. I took my prescription in and they knew exactly what paperwork and info was needed for Tricare. As soon as it all cleared, they notified me and had a bag ready for my pick-up at the store. They were great!"

Littlewoods Plaza (across from Belk)
449 Wilkins-Wise Road • Columbus, MS • 662.570.4991
Tuesday - Saturday 10:00am - 6:00pm
mom2bematernity.com

MILITARY SUMMER SPECIAL

15% OFF

TUMMY TUCKS, BRACHIOPLASTY
LIPOSUCTION of 2 or MORE AREAS

CALL FOR A
CONSULTATION

HEALTH ADDITIONS
GREGORY W. CHILDREY, MD

425 HOSPITAL DRIVE, STE 5

COLUMBUS, MS 39705

662-244-0206

www.edenbodysculpting.com

Dietary supplements: What you need to know to stay safe, avoid fraud

Mr. Robert Pagenkopf
14th Medical Group Health
Promotion Coordinator

Despite growing popularity among military personnel, many dietary supplements on the market are tainted and unsafe.

If you are currently using, or considering using a dietary supplement, ask yourself these red flag questions to minimize your risk of consuming harmful products.

Is it a high-risk dietary supplement? High-risk product categories include:

- Bodybuilding products
- Weight-loss products
- Diabetes products
- Sexual enhancement products

Does the supplement's product label have any of the claims below? These claims often indicate that the supplement may contain substances not on the ingre-

dients list, prescription drug analogs, or banned substances.

- An alternative to (or claiming to have similar effects to) an FDA-approved drug — e.g., "All natural alternative to XYZ."
- "Do not take if you have any medical condition, if you are taking any prescription medications or if you are pregnant."
- "May cause a positive result in a performance-enhancing drug test."

If the supplement makes a claim about a dietary ingredient affecting normal body structure or function (e.g., "helps promote bone health,") is its product label missing the following statement?: "These statements have not been evaluated by the Food and Drug Administration. This product is not intended to diagnose, treat, cure, or prevent any disease."

Does the label:

- Claim to cure a wide range of unrelated diseases (e.g., cancer, AIDS, in addition to diabetes)?
- Promise "quick fixes" (e.g., cure XYZ in seven days, lose weight in nine days, shrink tumors in one week, cure impotency in two weeks, etc.)?
- Does the label have:
 - Text in a foreign language?
 - Directions or warnings that resemble FDA-approved drug products?
 - Claims that it is as effective as an FDA-approved drug?
 - Inadequate or absent safety warnings?
 - A black-box warning?
- Is the label missing a third-party certification label? Third-party verification programs evaluate and certify dietary supplements for purity and/or quality. Examples are:

- United States Pharmacopeia (USP)

- NSF International
- Informed-Choice, HFL Sport Science
- ConsumerLab.com

Is the product marketed with personal testimonials about amazing results from using the product?

Did you receive solicitations (emails) offering products in the high-risk product categories?

Is the product rated 7 or lower by the Natural Medicines Comprehensive Database (NMCD)? The NMCD rates commercial products based on safety, effectiveness, and quality. Each product gets a rating of 1-10 with 10 being the best and 1 being the worst.

For more info on dietary supplements, visit the Human Performance Resource Center at <http://hprc-online.org/dietary-supplements> and click on OPSS: Operation Supplement Safety.



U.S. Air Force photo/Melissa Doublin

Eight of Team BLAZE's enlisted Airmen were promoted during the enlisted promotions ceremony April 29 in the Kaye Auditorium on Columbus Air Force Base, Mississippi.

Eight enlisted Airmen promoted at ceremony

14th Flying Training Wing
Public Affairs

Eight of Team BLAZE's enlisted Airmen were promoted during the enlisted promotion ceremony April 29 in the Kaye Auditorium.

Promoted during the month of April were:
Staff Sgt. Dawn Edwards, 14th Medical Operations Squadron
Staff Sgt. Joel Molina, 14th Civil Engi-

neer Squadron
Staff Sgt. Viviana Zittel, 14th MDOS
Senior Airman Samuel Chavez, 14th Communications Squadron
Senior Airman John Davis, 14th Operations Support Squadron
Senior Airman Garrett Jacobs, 14th OSS
Senior Airman Nicholas Lambert, 14th Security Forces Squadron
Airman 1st Class Aaron Marriott, 14th CES

EO office no longer taking walk-ins

Due to limited manning the EO office will not be accepting any walk in customers. Please contact TSgt Lachney via e-mail (danielle.lachney@us.af.mil or 14ftweo@us.af.mil) or call 434-2546 for an appointment. The EO office will contact you within two days of your contact to schedule an appointment. Once you have contacted the EO office via email or voice mail you have satisfied the requirement of making contact within 45 days.

Visit www.columbus.af.mil to learn about Columbus AFB agencies and other important information.

Asian American Pacific Islander Heritage Month Facts

The month of May was chosen for Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Observance because of two important dates in the middle of the month. On the seventh of May in 1843, the first Japanese immigrant traveled to the United States. On May 10, 1869, the transcontinental railroad was completed. The majority of the workers who laid the tracks were Chinese immigrants.

<http://www.asianpacificheritage.gov/about.html>

Asian/Pacific American women first entered military service during World War II. The Women's Army Corps (WAC) recruited 50 Japanese-American and Chinese-American women and sent them to the Military Intelligence Service Language School at Fort Snelling, Minnesota, for training as military translators. Of these women, 21 were assigned to the Pacific Military Intelligence Research Section at Camp Ritchie, Maryland. There they worked with captured Japanese documents, extracting information pertaining to military plans as well as political and economic information that impacted Japan's ability to conduct the war.

<http://www.womensmemorial.org/Education/APA.html>

In 2013, Brigadier General Miyako Schanely made history as the first female engineer in the Army Reserve and second in the Army to make general officer following her promotion ceremony at the 412th Theater Engineer Command headquarters in Vicksburg, Mississippi. It also made her the second Japanese-American woman to reach the flag rank.

http://www.army.mil/article/117068/Miyako_Schanely_makes_history_as_first_female_Army_Reserve_engineer_to_make_general_officer/

Team BLAZE members volunteer to clean up Lil-BLAZE Park



U.S. Air Force photo/Senior Airman Kaleb Snay

Spouses, Airmen, and other dependents volunteer their Saturday morning to clean up the Lil-BLAZE Park located across the street from the Bowling Alley April 30 at Columbus Air Force Base, Mississippi. Several Team BLAZE members brought buckets, sponges and soap while the Fire Station provided the water to help power clean the playground.

KC-135 crews support KC-46A testing missions

Airman Jenna K. Caldwell

22nd Air Refueling Wing Public Affairs

MCCONNELL AIR FORCE BASE, Kan. — Sixty-year-old KC-135 Stratotankers from McConnell Air Force Base recently supported the new KC-46A Pegasus testing and evaluation missions in Washington.

The KC-135s, which currently serve as the backbone of the air refueling fleet, provided refueling support to receiver and chase aircraft participating in the KC-46A test program, said one of the crewmembers on the flight. The 22nd Air Refueling Wing crew also acted as a contingency plan refueler in case of any mission difficulties.

Since the KC-46A is not yet cleared as a refueler, the KC-135's presence is crucial in allowing receiver and chase aircraft to be refueled, thereby extending the amount of times they can stay in the air and participate in testing.

"We were flying all different formation positions to check out the plane," said Capt. Alex Durstein, a 344th Air Refueling Squadron instructor pilot. "I valued the experience to see the new aircraft and be on a mission that was directly supporting getting the aircraft out in the field."

Before being cleared for operation, each receiver aircraft must be tested for the effects of wake turbulence while approaching and being refueled by the KC-46A, Durstein said. The testing consists of the receiver aircraft approaching the



U.S. Navy photo/Petty Officer 1st Class Christopher Okula

The KC-46A program's first test aircraft, EMD-1, conducts tests of aircraft acceleration and vibration exposure while flying in receiver formation at various speeds and altitudes behind the KC-135 Stratotanker.

KC-46A at varying speeds and distances from the boom to ensure it is operating within specifications.

"When we weren't flying, we were on cockpit alert status as a backup," said Maj. Jason Barry, a 350th ARS instructor evaluator pilot. "We watched all the testing that was done while in formation, listening on the radio to directives and refueling both aircraft as they needed it."

As part of on-going testing, the KC-46A test aircraft are flying out of Boeing Field in Seattle. The KC-135 and McCo-

nell aircrew met up with the KC-46A and receiver aircraft mid-mission over Washington and set up two miles in trail or waited in orbit during frequent altitude changes to refuel the chase aircraft, Durstein said.

"They checked out the wake turbulence at different positions," Durstein said. "The fighter would come 5 (degrees) to the right, 10 (degrees) to the right, back to center, and then off to the other side to see if it met standards."

The KC-46A is equipped with advanced electronic displays and controls for improved system performance, Barry said.

With more refueling capacity and enhanced capabilities, improved efficiency and increased capabilities for cargo and aeromedical evacuation, the KC-46A will provide aerial refueling support to the Air Force, Navy, Marine Corps, and allied nation coalition force aircraft, according to the Air Force KC-46A factsheet.

"It is truly a very capable and advanced aircraft," Durstein said. "They were testing it in air refueling benchmarks, which we do not typically do in the KC-135. (The KC-46A) will allow us to perform more aerial refueling missions within a restricted air space with more varied altitudes."

The KC-46A will join the KC-135 tanker mission in worldwide aerial refueling operations, with the first main operating base being McConnell AFB. The first KC-46A is currently scheduled to arrive here in spring 2017.

Lt. Gen. Darryl Roberson: 'Airpower starts here'

Airman 1st Class Kirby Turbak

97th Air Mobility Wing Public Affairs

ALTUS AIR FORCE, Okla. — Lt. Gen. Darryl Roberson, commander of Air Education and Training Command, visited Airmen from the 97th Air Mobility Wing here, April 25-26, during an immersion tour aimed to give him a better understanding of Altus Air Force Base's training mission.

During the tour, the general met with base Airmen and leaders to discuss the U.S. Air Force's new refueling aircraft, the KC-46 Pegasus, the importance of the AETC mission and the need for innovation in the Air Force.

"There is a lot of innovation happening here at the 97th," said Roberson. "This innovation is critical for us to continue to be the best air force in the world."

During his visit, Roberson saw first-hand how Altus AFB is accomplishing its mission of forging mobility forces and deploying Airmen warriors. Stopping at the KC-135 boom simulators, C-17 flight simulators, 97th Air Operations Squadron, non-prior service dormitories, the newest tail enclosure and school house construction for the KC-46, Roberson got a glimpse of these integral parts of the Altus mission. He also visited operations and offices that keep the base running from day-to-day including the 97th

Medical Group, 97th Security Forces Squadron, the fire department, base housing and the Airmen Resiliency Center.

Altus AFB is the only base that trains aircrews for the C-17 Globemaster III cargo aircraft, KC-135 Stratotanker refueling aircraft and soon, the KC-46 Pegasus refueling aircraft, which is expected to arrive here in 2017.

"The next generation tanker is going to be doing a lot more than just fueling," said Roberson. "It's going to do its mission in more ways than the fuelers before, and it's going to really help us as an Air Force."

Roberson also spoke about the importance of every career in the U.S. Air Force.

"It takes every single one of you to make airpower happen," said Roberson. "There are no extra bodies, no extra careers, there are no extras in the United States Air Force."

Roberson ended his visit by thanking the base members.

"I want to thank you for what you do every day out there in the heat, in the rain, in the snow, whatever it is," said Roberson. "You're out there producing C-17 and KC-135 aircrew, and soon the aircrews of our newest tanker. The new program will be a credible and important one, so thank you for your efforts and your sacrifices every day."



U.S. Air Force photo by Airman 1st Class Kirby Turbak/Released

Dawn Tabor, 97th Maintenance Directorate electronic integrated systems mechanic, demonstrates a communication device that is used in an aircraft for U.S. Air Force Lt. Gen. Darryl Roberson, commander of Air Education Training Command, April 26 at Altus Air Force Base, Oklahoma. Roberson visited Altus AFB to gain a better understanding of the base's training mission and discuss Air Force topics, including the U.S. Air Force KC-46 Pegasus, the importance of AETC missions and the need for innovation in the U.S. Air Force.

Columbus Air Force Base Information and Events

Join our Facebook page at Columbus AFB Living, Twitter at @columbusafbliving, MyAirForceLife App on any smart phone or visit our website at columbusafbliving.com to keep up to date with all the great events happening around base. Check out the calendar on the website for important Airman and Family Readiness Center events. For more information, contact 434-2337.

The Overrun Now Open Friday Nights

The Overrun is open Friday 4:30 p.m. until midnight. Bar menu includes chicken wing basket, chicken tender basket, club wrap, or buffalo chicken wrap. For more information, contact 434-2419.

Summer Day Camp Registration

The Youth Center is now taking registration for Summer Day Camp. Registration is open until all slots are filled. Cost based on family income. For more information, contact 434-2504.

New Library Hours of Operation

The Base Library hours of operation are Monday – Friday 11 a.m. – 5:30 p.m.; Sunday 1 – 5 p.m.; Saturday and holidays closed. For more information, contact 434-2934.

Ladies Golf Lessons

The Whispering Pines Golf Course is offering ladies golf lessons each Tuesday and Thursday 1 – 2 p.m. The cost is only \$5 per person. Must sign up by the day before the lesson. For more information, contact 434-7932.

Mom Bowls Free

The Bowling Center is offering free bowling for mothers May 7 in honor of Mother's Day. Shoe rental not included. For more information, contact 434-3426.

Mother's Day Brunch

The Columbus Club is offering Sunday Brunch in honor of Mother's Day, May 8, from 10:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m. Make your reservations today. Brunch prices: club member \$17; non-member \$20; children (5 – 11) \$8; 4 and under free. For more information, contact 434-2489.

Bowl with the Pros

The Bowling Center is offering the free bowling camp Bowl like a Pro May 13 at 6 p.m. for ages 15 and up and Youth Bowling Camp May 14 at 9 a.m. for ages 7 – 15. Pro Bowlers Parker Bohn and Sean Rash will conduct these camps. For more information, contact 434-3426.

Fitness Mini Expo

The Fitness Center is offering a Fitness Mini Expo 11:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m. May 13. This is a free event which includes vendor exhibits from 12:30 – 1:30 p.m., fitness activities, and health screenings. For more information, contact 434-2772.

Community Services Open House

The Community Services Flight is hosting an open house May 14. Schedule of events include: free youth bowling camp with the professionals for ages 7 -15 from 9 – 11 a.m., free golf/footgolf and \$10 cart rental from 11 a.m. – 2 p.m. at the Golf Course, free paintball target practice from 11 a.m. – 1 p.m. at Outdoor Recreation, free art projects for kids from 1 – 3 p.m. at Arts and Crafts, and free refreshments from 3 – 5 p.m. at SAC Lake. Stop by each facility and discover what the Community Services Flight has to offer. For more information, contact 434-2504.

Referees Needed

Referees needed for various sports at the Fitness Center. For more information or to sign up, contact 434-2772.



Mother's Day Brunch
at The Columbus Club

Sunday, May 8
Make Your Reservations Today

Seating begins at 10:30 with additional seating times every 30 minutes until 1:00
The cost for adults is \$17 for members and \$20 for nonmembers
Children (5-11).....\$8
Free to ages 4 and under

Menu includes...
· fried catfish · roast beef · fried chicken · ham · bacon · sausage
· mashed potatoes · green beans casserole · corn · tumip greens
· cabbage · macaroni & cheese · ranch potatoes
· black eyed peas · grits · eggs · biscuits · rolls · cornbread
· sausage gravy · salad bar · dessert table · waffle station
· omelet station · drink station with Champagne mimosa

happy mother's day
For More Information or to Make Reservations, 434-2489

Thursday Night Nine-Pin No-Tap League

The Bowling Center is offering Thursday Night Nine-Pin No-Tap League sign up. The cost is only \$10 per person per week. League begins 6 p.m. May 19. Sign up as an individual or a team. For more information or to sign up, contact 434-3426.

NCO vs Airman Golf Scramble

The Golf Course is offering an NCO versus Airman Golf Scramble May 20 at 5 p.m. The cost is only \$5 (E1 – E4) and \$8 (E5 and above); golf cart rental \$10 per person. For more information, contact 434-7932.

Youth Bowling League

The Bowling Center is offering Youth Bowling League sign up. The cost is only \$6 per child a week. League begins 3 p.m. June 4. For more information or to sign up, contact 434-3426.

America's Kids Run

The Youth Center is offering the America's Kids Run 8 a.m. May 21 at the Youth Center parking lot. This is a free event for all ages. Register online at americaskidsrun.org. For more information, contact 434-2504.

Pearl River Resort Casino Trip

Outdoor Recreation is offering a monthly casino trip to Pearl River Resort. Upcoming dates:

May 21, June 25, July 30, Aug. 27, Sept. 24, Oct. 22, Nov. 19, and Dec. 17. The cost is only \$25 per person; includes \$20 in play credit at casino and transportation. Outdoor Recreation bus departs Exchange/Shopette parking lot at 1:30 p.m. Any party of 10 or more may book transportation to casino anytime for \$25 per person. For more information, contact 434-2505.

Gymnastics Instructor Needed

Gymnastics Instructors needed at the Youth Center. For more information, contact Kayline Hamilton at 434-2503.

Independence Pool Opens

The Independence Pool at the Columbus Club will open at noon May 27. The pool will be open daily from noon – 7 p.m. Pool passes available for purchase at Outdoor Recreation beginning April 15. Book a pool party for your next event, birthday party, or squadron activity. For more information, contact 434-2505.

Free Breakfast for Club Members

The Columbus Club is offering free breakfast for club members June 6 from 6:30 – 8 a.m. Non-members pay \$8 per person. Become a Club member and eat for free plus enjoy all the benefits of being a member. For more information, contact 434-2489.

British Soccer Camp

The Youth Center is offering British Soccer Camp June 13 – 17. Cost varies according to age and special session. Ages 3 – 18 may register online at challengersports.com. For more information, contact 434-2504.

Columbus Club Lunch Buffet Specials

The Columbus Club is offering a lunch buffet Tuesday - Friday 11 a.m. – 1:30 p.m. Taco Tuesday includes tacos and nachos for only \$5 per club member and \$6 per non-member; Wednesday has pizza and wings, Thursday is southern, and Friday is catfish and spaghetti. Cost of Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday buffet is only \$7.95 for club members and \$8.95 for non-members. For more information, contact 434-2419.

Story Time and Wee-Babies at the Library

The Base Library is offering Story Time every Friday at 10:30 a.m. for all ages. Wee-Babies is offered each Wednesday at 11 a.m. for ages up to four years old. For more information, contact 434-2934.

Bowling Center Party Specials

The Bowling Center is offering two options for all your party needs. Option 1 includes 2 hours of unlimited bowling and shoe rental for only \$8.50 per person. Option 2 includes 2 hours of unlimited bowling, shoe rental, and a child meal for only \$11.50 per person. Choice of meal includes chicken tenders, hot dog, corn dog, or grilled cheese served with fries and drink. You may bring in a cake, cupcakes, and ice cream. No other outside food and drinks allowed. For more information, contact 434-3426.

Cosmic Bowling Special

The Bowling Center is offering Cosmic Bowling for only \$12 per person every Friday and Saturday night from 5 – 8 p.m. You also may purchase individual games for \$3 per game with purchase of \$1.50 shoe rental. For more information, contact 434-3426.

Lawn Mower Repair

Lawn mower repair is now available at Outdoor Recreation. The cost is only \$40 per hour plus parts; pickup and delivery available. For more information, contact 434-2507.

Hobby and Craft Instructors Needed

Do you have a hobby or craft project you can share with others? For more information, contact 434-7836.

GoPro Rental

Capture the moment by renting a GoPro Hero Three from Outdoor Recreation. The cost is only \$10 for a two-day rental. Single Airmen may receive a two-day rental at no charge during Single Airman programming events. For more information, contact 434-2505.

Play Paintball

Book your next paintball event at Outdoor Recreation. The cost is \$15 per person for a party of 10 or more; \$20 per person for party of nine or less. You must purchase paint at Outdoor Recreation for \$45 per case of 2,000. For more information, contact 434-2505.



AFSA MEMBERSHIP DRIVE

Join a GREAT organization committed to fighting for your military benefits and lunch is on us!

When: 17-19 May, 1100-1300
Where: The Columbus AFB Club

FREE AFSA SHIRT with new member sign up while supplies last

FREE LUNCH! with membership sign up

Wilken earns first quarter Diamond Sharp award



U.S. Air Force photo

The 2016 First Quarter Diamond Sharp Award recipient is Senior Airman Karlyn Wilkin, 14th Operations Support Squadron, currently serving as the 14th Flying Training Wing command chief executive assistant.

The Diamond Sharp Award is a recognition program run by the Columbus Air Force Base first sergeants recognizing an Airman or a team of Airmen on a quarterly basis. The criteria for being nominated can be for outstanding service, selfless acts, or leadership traits that make them stand out amongst your peers.

During the first quarter of 2016 she provided exceptional administrative support impacting the utilization, health and welfare, and quality of life of more than 500 enlisted personnel. Wilkin oversaw and coordinated over 250 appointments, meetings and events while ensuring mission focus. She always kept an all in attitude and was pivotal to the Wing's Annual Airman of the Year award program.

Columbus AFB Top 3 spotlight



U.S. Air Force photo/Sharon Ybarra

Staff Sgt. Victoria Hull, 14th Force Support Squadron, poses for a photo with members of the Top 3 Organization May 2 after receiving the Top 3 Spotlight award in the Mission Support Group Building on Columbus Air Force Base, Mississippi. Hull displayed excellence in her position as NCO In Charge for Force Management within the Military Personnel Section as well as her role as point of contact for Women's History Month.

Date: April 27

Nominee Name/Grade: Staff Sgt. Victoria Hull

Unit: 14th Force Support Squadron

Information:

1. Home Town: Clinton, Utah
2. Time in the Air Force: 10 years
3. Time at Columbus AFB: Just over three and half years
4. Career Short Term Goals: Getting promoted to technical sergeant and complete Course 15 (NCO Academy correspondence course)
5. Career Long Term Goals: Complete Bachelor's degree and getting another assignment
6. Nominated by: Master Sgt. Jeanphilippe Guindon

7. Nomination reason: Staff Sgt. Victoria Hull is the NCO In Charge for Force Management within the Military Personnel Section. She coordinated with unit leadership across the wing on the Junior Enlisted Force Distribution Panels, and tracking Promotion Eligibility rosters for 27 Commanders, ensuring all TIG/TIS eligible airmen are aligned correctly with the SECAF policy. She provided guidance and expertise on the new evaluation form in regards to referrals and senior airman Static Close-Out Date evaluations to leadership, while also processing and reviewing 50 evaluations and decorations, making certain they were placed into individuals' selection folders in a timely manner. Additionally, she was the point of contact for Women's History Month where she coordinated a luncheon attended by 60 and tied-in the monthly Wing 5K to the event.

Come check out BLAZE Fest

Senior Master Sgt. Joseph Arce
14th Operations Support Squadron

Everyone with base access is invited to the first ever 14th Flying Training Wing BLAZE Fest, scheduled for 11 a.m. – 6 p.m. May 14 at Freedom Park. The free event offers entertainment for both families and single Airmen such as live bands, refreshments and carnival food. A family 5K fun run/walk is also scheduled for 8 a.m. that morning. Leadership has worked hard to keep the cost nominal; the only cost is for food and beverages. Additionally, shuttles will run from the 14th Operations Group parking lot and from both Capital and Magnolia housing so you can enjoy yourselves without worrying about the drive home. End this school year and begin the summer with a BLAZE.



Activities Scheduled:	
Helicopter landing and static display	Fair type children swings
Military working dog display	Fair type pirate boat
Fire department displays	Carnival type games
Petting zoo	Family involved races
Pony rides	AAFES gift card prizes
Water slide inflatables	Four live bands (both Country & Rock genres)
Non-water slide inflatable	Arts and crafts booths

Food and refreshments:	
Funnel cakes	Cotton candy
Fried cookies	Chicken fingers
Burgers and hot dogs	Popsicles
French fries	Soda and beer

Note: activities and food are subject to change.

Air Force Readiness Programs

(Editor's note: All activities are offered at the Airman & Family Readiness Center unless otherwise specified. For more information about any of the activities listed, call 434-2790.)

Career Technical Training

This transition event is held 8 a.m. - 3 p.m. May 9-10 and explores technical careers for post military personnel using VA Educational benefits. It is conducted by CALIBRE, private company contracted by DVA. Prior registration is required, company requires 10 days notification and must have minimum of eight participants. For more information or to register call 434-2790.

Wing Newcomers Orientation

This brief is 8 a.m. – 12:15 p.m. May 10 and is mandatory for newly arrived active-duty and civilian personnel. Spouses are encouraged to attend. The orientation is held at the Columbus Club. For more information or to register call 434-2790.

Veterans Family Day

This event will be 11 a.m.- 1 p.m. May 10 at A&FRC to inform veterans about services available to them through the Tuscaloosa VA Medical Center and the Birmingham Vet center. In addition the Lowndes County Veterans Services Officer and Dept of Veterans Affairs Contractor will be available to answer questions. Grilled hot dogs, chips & water will be provided. This is a great chance to ask questions about benefits available. For more information call 434-2790.

Military Life Cycle

The Military Life Cycle workshop from 1-2 p.m. May 10 allows the VA contractors to explain to service members, whether first term, separating, retiring or a veteran, what services the VA offers and what they are able to provide throughout the member's military career and how to apply for benefits. For more information or to register call 434-2790.

Troops To Teachers

This workshop is 10:30 a.m. - noon May 11. It is an informational workshop for members pursuing or interested in a teaching career after the military. For more information or to register call 434-2790.

Federal USAJobs Workshop

This workshop starts 10:30 a.m May 11. It is on writing resumes, applications, and job searches using USAJobs. For more information or to register, call 434-2790.

Entrepreneurship Track Transition Workshop

This workshop is held 8 a.m. - 3 p.m. May 12-13. The Entrepreneurship workshop is conducted by the Small Business Administration for veterans and all base personnel interested starting up and operating their own business. To register and for more information, call 434-2790.

Airmen, families honor lives of Holocaust victims



U.S. Air Force photo/Senior Airman Kaleb Snay
Team BLAZE members pause for a moment of silence May 4 at Columbus Air Force Base, Mississippi, in observance of the lives lost during the Holocaust. Members then took the time to commence a Vigil Walk together nearby.

First Term Officer's PFR

The First Term Officers' Personal Financial Readiness Workshop is required by AFI for all newly assigned officer personnel at their first station. The event is 9 - 10 a.m. May 12. For more information, call 434-2790.

Linked-In Workshop

The Linked-In workshop is 2 - 5 p.m. May 23-24. You can learn how to establish and use a Linked-In account. To register and for more information, please call 434-2790.

Pre-separation Counseling

This counseling is a mandatory briefing for personnel separating or retiring, to be completed at least 90 days prior to separation. It may be completed up to 12 months prior to separation or retirement. The counseling is held daily at 8:30 a.m. It takes approximately 60 minutes. Please contact A&FRC, 434-2839/434-2790 for more information.

Pre, Post Deployment Tour Brief

These briefings are mandatory briefings for active-duty personnel who are either deploying or returning from deployment or a remote tour. The briefings are held daily at the A&FRC. Pre-deployment is at 9:30 a.m., and post-deployment is at 1:30 p.m. Please contact A&FRC, 434-2839/434-2790 for more information.

Survivor-Benefit Plan

Are you nearing military retirement? The one decision you will need to make before you retire involves participation in the Survivor Benefit Plan. As with all good decision-making, you need to know the facts before you can make

a sound decision, and be wary of anyone telling you they can offer you a better deal. Always get the true facts about the SBP before making up your mind. Additional details are available by calling (662) 434-2720.

Military and Family Life Consultant Program

The MFLC counselors provide non-medical counseling to help Airmen (both single and married), their spouses and other family members to cope with stressful situations created by deployments, reintegration, and life challenges such as martial issues, parenting, career stress and anger. All consultants are licensed mental health providers. Counselors can meet either on or off base. There is no charge for services and appointments can usually be made within one to two days. To contact the MFLC, call 662-364-0504.

Volunteer Opportunities

If you are interested in volunteering please contact the Airman & Family Readiness Center. We have volunteer opportunities located throughout the base for a one-time event, special events, or on a continual basis. Volunteers are needed on base at the Youth Center, Child Development Center, Library, Golf Course, Medical Clinic, Chapel, Airman Attic, Thrift Store, the Retiree Activities office and many others. For more information please call A&FRC at 434-2790.

Air Force Recovery Coordination Program

The Recovery Coordination Program streamlines and improves the way care and support are delivered to wounded, ill, and injured Airmen

and their families. The RCP provides the support of a Recovery Care Coordinator who guides the Airman and family along their road to recovery. Those eligible include wounded, ill and injured Airmen who: (1) have a serious illness or injury (2) are unlikely to return to duty within a specified amount of time (3) may be medically separated from the military. Additional details are available by contacting the Columbus AFB RCC at DSN: 493-3399, Office: 334-953-3399 or tim.griggs.1.ctr@us.af.mil.

Personal Financial Readiness

Make the most of your money. Contact Ms. Delores Sherman, Personal Financial Counselor, for an appointment at 426-2527, 434-2790, or by email at ColumbusAFB-PFC@MFLC.Zeiders.com. She can help manage finances, resolve financial problems, and reach long-term goals such as getting an education, buying a home and planning for retirement.

Learn How to Read Your LES

Having a hard time understanding your Leave and Earning Statement? Need a refresher so that you can mentor your subordinates on their entitlements? Finance has you covered. If you would like for Finance to come to your next CC call or Professional Organization event, you can contact Master Sgt. Sabrina Spriggs at DSN 742-3068 or Senior Airman Julianna White at DSN 742-2715.

Chapel Schedule

Whether you are new to Columbus Air Force Base or have been around for a while, our parish communities welcome you to join us as we worship, fellowship, and encourage one another. For more information, please call 434-2500.

Catholic Community

Sundays:
3:45 p.m. – Religious Education, grades K-9 (Chapel Annex)
4 p.m. – Choir Practice (Chapel Sanctuary)
4 p.m. – Confession (or by appointment)
5 p.m. – Mass w/Children's Church
Tuesdays:
11:30 a.m. – Daily Mass
Wednesdays:
11:30-12:30 p.m. – Adoration

Protestant Community

Sundays:
9 a.m. – Adult Sunday School (Chapel Library)
10:45 a.m. – Traditional Worship Service
Tuesdays:
5 p.m. – Student Pilot Bible Study (Chapel Library)
Wednesdays:
4 p.m. - Music Rehearsal

Ecumenical services

Wednesdays:
6 p.m. – AWANA, a religious education program for children ages three years old to 6th grade
6 p.m. – Adult Bible study on the Gospel of John
6 p.m. – Youth Group

Team BLAZE Airmen attend 21st annual retreat



Courtesy photo

Airmen from Columbus Air Force Base and their families pause for a group photo at the 21st Annual Christian Retreat at Lake Forest Ranch in Macon, Mississippi. The retreat was held April 22-24 and was sponsored by the Chapel's Protestant Parish.

The Airman's Creed

I am an American Airman.
I am a Warrior.
I have answered my nation's call.

I am an American Airman.
My mission is to fly, fight, and win.
I am faithful to a proud heritage.
A tradition of honor,
And a legacy of valor.

I am an American Airman.
Guardian of freedom and justice,
My nation's sword and shield,
Its sentry and avenger.
I defend my country with my life.

I am an American Airman.
Wingman, leader, warrior.
I will never leave an Airman behind.
I will never falter,
And I will not fail.

Mentoring: Groom where you're planted

Lt. Col. Elizabeth Harwood

14th Civil Engineer Squadron Commander

One morning, roughly four years ago, my phone rang at work. On the other end of the line was a scoutmaster with a request.

His Boy Scouts were at a summer camp and one of their Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math activities, also known as STEM, required the scouts to analyze an earthen dam problem.

Would I serve as a subject matter expert and answer their questions? I was instantly a little nervous. What kind of questions would they ask I wondered, was I the right person for the job?

After asking a few questions of my own, I agreed and asked one final question before I hung up the phone, "Just curious, but how did you get my name and number?" The Scoutmaster replied, "Do you know Senior Airman W?" Though I had more than 350 Airmen in my flight, I knew him well; he was one of my top performers, an avid volunteer in squadron activities, and also an Eagle Scout and volunteer with the Boy Scouts.

"He recommended you, said you'd be perfect for the job," he said. I hung up the phone humbled; I had just received a reference from an Airman four levels of supervision deep.

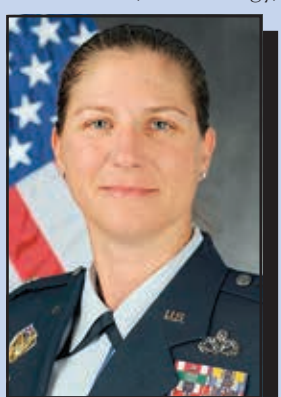
The Air Force defines a mentor in Air Force Manual 36-2643, *Air Force Mentoring Program*, as a "wise, trusted, and experienced individual who shares knowledge, experience, and advice with a less experienced person." The AFMAN provides guidelines and expectations for mentor and mentee, a mentoring checklist, mentoring plan, and more. It also includes information on the Air Force's latest mentoring tool, MyVector. It's an online resource to encourage mentorship at all levels, but both are very focused on mentoring as it relates to career progression, which is only a fraction of the mentoring equation.

The Air Force hires almost exclusively from within its ranks, even within the civilian work force; it is rare to receive external hiring authority. The Air Force doesn't lure employees away from corporations to fill gaps or solve difficult problems, it deliberately grooms its Airmen for increased levels of responsibility. That development is vital to the future success of the Air Force and isn't something only commanders do, it must happen at every level.

Mentoring can come from above, below, and peers; every Airman is a mentor. It's as much about developing leadership and followership as it is about career progression. You often have little control over where and with whom you serve next, but we're all responsible for grooming our replacements. It doesn't matter if you have 18 months or 18 years of service, your mentorship is key. You have something to offer your peers, your boss, and those you supervise.

Senior Airman W's recommendation reminded me mentoring was about more than formal mentoring events, a career plan, and near- and long-term goals. It was also about the little things you do every day when you interact with others. It could be a conversation at the coffee pot, during lunch, on a job site, during a shop visit, or at a staff meeting. I couldn't recall any specific conversation with him that would have led him to believe I have the right skill set to help the scouts, but I remembered several seemingly insignificant ones.

Through his recommendation, he had mentored me. He had shown me those conversations were more meaningful than I had realized, and regardless of the location or level you're planted, you have the ability to groom others for greater responsibility.



Silver Wings 2016 Readership Survey

Let your voice be heard. The 14th Flying Training Wing Public Affairs office needs to hear what you think of the current products we offer. This is the best way to let us know what we are doing right and wrong so we can better serve the Columbus community. Answer the questions and submit them to us using the instructions below. For more information please feel free to contact us at 434-7073 or 434-7068. Thank you for participating, we look forward to your response!

Silver Wings 2016 Readership Survey Form

Circle the answer that best fits you:

I am...

- (male/female/other)

- (active military/retired military/veteran/other military/spouse/other dependent/civilian/other)

- living (off-base/on-base/deployed/other)

- a (frequent/moderate/rare/non) reader of the Silver Wings.

I prefer...

- getting my local news from (Silver Wings/Columbus AFB webpage/social media/other)

- reading the Silver Wings (physical/digital/neither) newspaper.

- to see more (local/Air Force wide/off-base/other) news.

- to read a (smaller/larger/no change) newspaper.

- to see (less/more/no change) advertisements in the newspaper.

The PA office...

- does a (great/decent/poor) job with the Silver Wings.

- does a (great/decent/poor) job covering local events.

- does a (great/decent/poor) job providing online content.

In the future, I would like to see more _____.

In the future, I would like to see less of _____.

In my opinion, _____.

How to turn in:

1. Scan, type, or take a photo of your responses and e-mail them to us at Silverwings@us.af.mil. Ensure the image text is legible.
2. Drop it into Base Distribution labeled 14 FTW/PA Silverwings
3. Bring it by the office located left of the main lobby in the Headquarters building
4. Give us a call at 434-7073 or 434-7068

BLAZE Hangar Tails: F-117 Night Hawk



U.S. Air Force photo/Senior Airman Brian Ferguson

Twenty-five F-117 Nighthawks line up before takeoff from Holloman Air Force Base, New Mexico. The Lockheed F-117 Nighthawk is a single-seat, twin-engine stealth attack aircraft that was developed by Lockheed's Skunk Works division and operated by the United States Air Force.



U.S. Air Force photo/Senior Master Sgt. Kim Frey

Two specially painted F-117 Nighthawks fly on one of their last missions. The single-seat Nighthawk is powered by two non-afterburning General Electric F404 turbofan engines. It is air refuelable and features a V-tail.

Mission

The Lockheed F-117 Nighthawk is a single-seat, twin-engine stealth attack aircraft that was developed by Lockheed's Skunk Works division and operated by the United States Air Force. The F-117 was based on the Have Blue technology demonstrator, and was the first operational aircraft to be designed around stealth technology. The maiden flight of the Nighthawk took place in 1981 and the aircraft achieved initial operating capability status in 1983.

Features

Early stealth aircraft were designed with a focus on minimal radar cross-section rather than aerodynamic performance. Highly-stealth aircraft like the F-117 Nighthawk are aerodynamically unstable in all three Aircraft principal axes and require constant flight corrections from a fly-by-wire flight system to maintain controlled flight. It is shaped to deflect radar signals and is about the size of an F-15 Eagle. The single-seat Nighthawk is powered by two non-afterburning General Electric F404 turbofan engines. It is air refuelable and features a V-tail.

The F-117A's faceted shape resulted from the limitations of the 1970s-era computer technology used to calculate its radar cross-section. Later supercomputers made it possible for subsequent planes like the B-2 bomber to use curved surfaces while staying stealthy, through the use of far more computational resources to do the additional calculations needed.

An exhaust plume contributes a significant infrared signature. The F-117 reduces IR signature with a non-circular tail pipe to minimize the exhaust cross-sectional volume and maximize the mixing of hot exhaust with cool ambient air. The F-117 lacks afterburners, because the hot exhaust would increase the infrared signature, and breaking the sound barrier would produce an obvious sonic boom, as well as surface heating of the aircraft skin which also increased the infrared footprint. As a result, its performance in air combat maneuvering required in a dogfight would never match that of a dedicated fighter aircraft. This was unimportant in the case of this aircraft since it was designed to be a bomber.

Background

The F-117 was widely publicized for its role in the Gulf War of 1991. Although it was commonly referred to as the "Stealth Fighter", it was a strictly ground-attack aircraft. The U.S. Air Force retired the F-117 on 22 April 2008, primarily due to the fielding of the F-22 Raptor. Sixty-four F-117s were built, 59 of which were production versions with the other five being demonstrators/prototypes.

General characteristics

- Crew:** 1
- Length:** 65 ft 11 in (20.09 m)
- Wingspan:** 43 ft 4 in (13.20 m)
- Height:** 12 ft 9.5 in (3.78 m)
- Wing area:** 780 ft² (73 m²)
- Empty weight:** 29,500 lb (13,380 kg)
- Loaded weight:** 52,500 lb (23,800 kg)
- Powerplant:** 2 × General Electric F404-F1D2 turbofans, 10,600 lbf (48.0 kN) each
- Maximum speed:** Mach 0.92 (617 mph, 993 km/h)
- Cruise speed:** Mach 0.92
- Range:** 930 NM (1,720 km)
- Service ceiling:** 45,000 ft (13,716 m)
- Wing loading:** 65 lb/ft² (330 kg/m²)
- Thrust/weight:** 0.40

14th Security Forces Squadron defends aircraft, families

Airman 1st Class John Day
14th Flying Training Wing Public Affairs

At the 14th Flying Training Wing, Columbus Air Force Base's 14th Security Forces Squadron works around the clock to protect, defend and provide police services to enable mission success.

Approaching an Air Force base or any military installation for the first time will bring you face to face with a defender.

Their motto is, "We defend ... day and night."

This first impression can set the tone for the duration of a visit as well as the overall impression of the Air Force.

"You can make or break someone's day just by how you first interact with them as they enter the gate," said Maj. Shawn Redmond, 14th SFS Commander. "At the gate, you are their first impression and the face of the Air Force. That is in my opinion, the best job in the Air Force."

Defenders not only keep the peace and uphold

the law on base, but also provide services ranging from criminal investigations to traffic violations.

"The most visible defenders you see are our guys performing access control at the gate and visitor center," Redmond said. "Then we have the law enforcement side. Anything happening outside the gates in Columbus, Caledonia or Starkville could be happening here too. Our defenders respond just as Lowndes county police would do."

Another section of the 14th SFS is the Military

Working Dogs.

"Our mission is to supplement and support the 14th SFS by providing MWDs who can help protect our community," said Staff Sgt. Karl Stefanowicz, 14th SFS Kennel Master. "Our dogs are patrol and detectors, they can go out and help apprehend suspects if the situation requires force. They can locate a suspect in hiding and they often support vehicle inspections."

Although defenders do not participate in law enforcement outside the gate, they do interact with the local community by providing the local police force with their MWD and handlers as the mission allows. Security forces also partners with downtown police and FBI for different types

of training.

"The kennel we use for training our dogs is one thing our local police do not have," Redmond said. "We invite them on to train their dogs. As we have four explosive [smelling] dogs and the community has one, we often get called asking for support if there is a bomb threat in the area."

The culmination of all these jobs are what the defender may face every day fulfilling their duties and the 14th FTW's mission.

"Our mission is the wing's mission, to Produce Pilots, Advance Airmen and Feed the Fight," Redmond said. "Those planes do not take off without our guys on the ground doing their part to support that mission."



Senior Airman Patrick Shirley, 14th Security Forces Squadron Patrolman, checks the identification of a Team BLAZE member attempting to go through the main gate May 5 at Columbus Air Force Base, Mississippi. Although the main gate is open 24/7 unless otherwise stated, the back gate is only open from 6 a.m. – 6 p.m. Monday – Friday, and is closed on weekends and federal holidays.

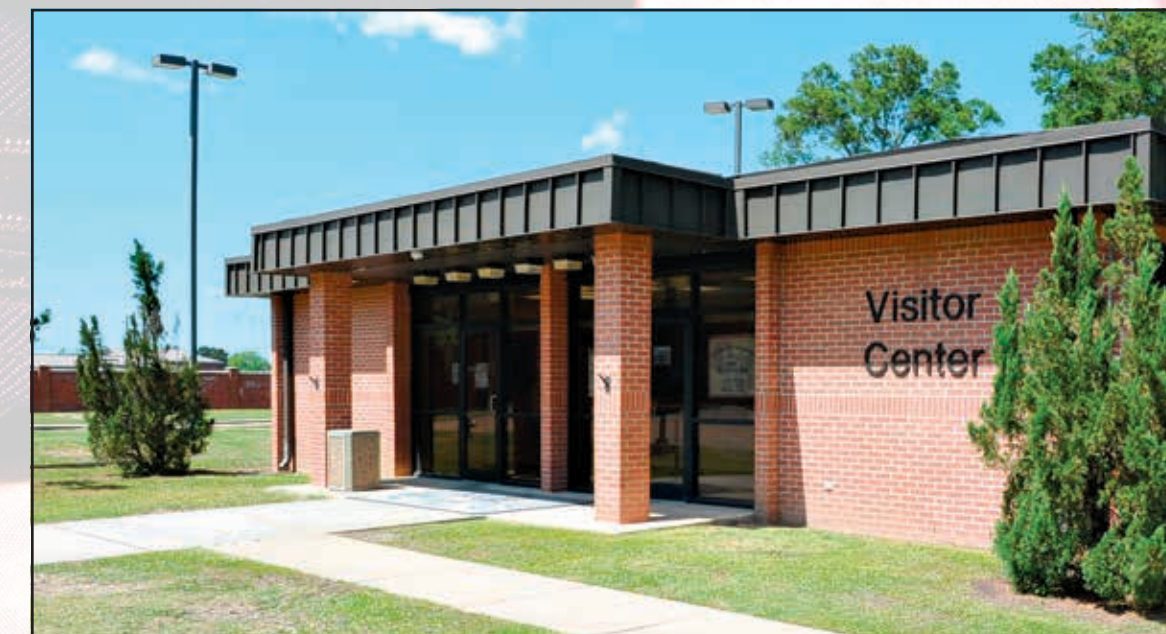
U.S. Air Force photos/Senior Airman Kaleb Snay



Senior Airman Kyle Jacob, 14th Security Forces Squadron Military Working Dog Handler, guides MWD Rex through the demo course May 5 at Columbus Air Force Base, Mississippi. Although defenders do not participate in law enforcement outside the gate, they do interact with the local community by providing the local police force with their MWD and handlers as the mission allows.



Staff Sgt. Jimmy Juarez and Senior Airman Kyle Jacob, 14th Security Forces Squadron Military Working Dog Handlers, train MWD Rex on taking down personnel running from security forces May 5 at Columbus Air Force Base, Mississippi. Their motto is, "We defend ... day and night."



The 14th Security Forces Squadron runs the Visitor Center outside the main gate of Columbus Air Force Base, Mississippi, where base passes and more are provided. The hours of operation are 7:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. Monday-Friday, and is closed on weekends, federal holidays, and at noon every third Thursday of the month. For more information, call 434-3161.