



944th Fighter Wing Monthly SnapShot

www.944fw.afrc.af.mil

November 2013

944 FW KEY LEADERS

Commander

Col. Kurt J. Gallegos

Vice Commander

Col. Robert Whitehouse

Mission

Train and provide Combat-Ready Citizen Airmen in support of our national objectives.

944th Fighter Wing Electronic Monthly SnapShot:

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Overcoming Adversity

By Colonel Kurt J. Gallegos, 944th Fighter Wing Commander

Adversity is defined in Webster's Dictionary as 'a difficult situation or condition; misfortune or tragedy; or a state, condition, or instance of serious or continued difficulty or adverse fortune'. Lately, for many of us, it feels like adversity has hit us hard: sequestration, government shutdown, furloughs, canceled Unit Training Assemblies, our upcoming inspection, and the list can go on and on. We can sometimes feel overwhelmed and not know which way to turn but just when we think we can't overcome whatever it is that is causing our adversity we take that next step and then another until we have risen above it.

Some of the greats throughout history have highlighted this very concept. Legendary football coach, Lou Holtz once said, "Show me someone who has done something worthwhile and I'll show you someone who has overcome adversity." Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. stated that, "The ultimate measure of a man is not where he stands in moments of comfort and convenience but where he stands at times of challenge and controversy."

A few weeks ago I had the privilege of attending a presentation by a gentleman who has been through the worst life can throw at you and came out swinging on the other end. You will have the same opportunity to hear from this hero during our Commanders Call on Saturday. Jason Schechterle is a retired Phoenix Police Officer who was severely injured in the line of duty. The physicians who first worked on him didn't think he would survive. After 52 surgeries, years of healing, and no small amount of faith and resiliency, Jason is alive and sharing his story today.

Every day we face a challenge is a day we face an opportunity. Don't miss out on those opportunities. The Air Force has a resiliency program that can help us bounce back from adversity. It's our inner fortitude that allows us to pick ourselves back up, dust ourselves off and continue to face our challenges head-on. The Air Force Resiliency Program focuses on four pillars - mental, physical, social and spiritual. Balancing those pillars and adding in our Wingman concept, we can keep on the right track and overcome adversity. Make sure that you keep your pillars well maintained and be grateful for what you have each day.

Schechterle told us that, "The one true blessing we have, the one thing we have control of, is our attitude. It's the only thing you have control of, every single day, every situation. You get to decide what your attitude is going to be." Have that positive attitude and be resilient.



944th Fighter Wing Commander Call

November 2, 2013 at 1430

Base Theater



Cyber Crime Alert Notice: There is a third party mobile applications called "MyPay DFAS LES" that reference the Department Finance and Accounting Services (DFAS) myPay system for federal employees and members of the uniformed services, but it is not sponsored by the Department of Defense or U.S. Government. Using non-sanctioned applications to access your myPay account can potentially lead to the compromise of your myPay account information and theft of funds. DO NOT download or use the mobile app "MyPay DFAS LES".



Thanks for everything

By Chief Master Sgt. Thomas Brandhuber, 944th Fighter Wing Command Chief

Wow my last time writing an article for the 944 Fighter Wing. I don't think it is has sunk in that we already had our last Unit Training Assembly together. I wasn't kidding when I wrote in September to be prepared for change and things happen quick.

I arrived at the 944th in 1989 and it seems like yesterday, well at least until I talk to the newcomers and they tell me they were born in 1995. As I move to 10th Air Force, I take away many cherished memories and experiences from the 944th. I am fully aware that this opportunity is in large part because of the job all of you do and the reputation that the 944th FW has.

I appreciate the support Col. Gallegos gave me in pursuing this opportunity and the opportunity Maj. Gen. Binger is giving me. There is not enough allotted article space, plus I would screw up and forget someone, so to all of you who have mentored me, both officer and enlisted, thank you. However, to my beautiful wife Tamara and our girls Tory, Paige, Jasmine, and Bailey, for their continued support and sacrifice, because without it I couldn't have made it let alone as a reservist, but now as the 10 AF Command Chief.

You are in great hands with a Wing Commander, Vice Commander, Group Commander's, Chiefs, and Shirts who care about you. Thank you for your service, control your career, be ready for change, and remember what is important, FAMILY.

Keep our deployed members and their families in your thoughts. See you around. Peace Out.

"Go Irish!"

Promotions:

The following members were promoted 1 October 2013:

Airman 1st Class Arthur A. Anderson to the rank of Senior Airman, 414th Maintenance Squadron
 Airman 1st Class Hayden T. Jones to the rank of Senior Airman, 414th Maintenance Squadron
 Airman 1st Class Marcellu Mccadden to the rank of Senior Airman, 414th Maintenance Squadron
 Airman 1st Class Luis A. Mendoza Chavez to the rank of Senior Airman, 414th Maintenance Squadron
 Airman 1st Class Gina M. Shannon to the rank of Senior Airman, 414th Maintenance Squadron
 Senior Airman Gerardo I. Ibarra to the rank of Staff Sergeant, 924th Maintenance Squadron
 Staff Sergeant Owen E. Dismuke to the rank of Tech. Sergeant, 944th Logistics Readiness Squadron
 Staff Sergeant Robert C. Fink to the rank of Tech. Sergeant, 944th Logistics Readiness Squadron
 Staff Sergeant William V. Lee to the rank of Tech. Sergeant, 944th Civil Engineer Squadron
 Staff Sergeant Brian M. Miller to the rank of Tech. Sergeant, 944th Logistics Readiness Squadron
 Staff Sergeant Valerie R. Moore to the rank of Tech. Sergeant, 944th Force Support Squadron
 Staff Sergeant James D. Pumarejo to the rank of Tech. Sergeant, 924th Maintenance Squadron
 Staff Sergeant Christopher M. Pletcher to the rank of Tech. Sergeant, 924th Maintenance Squadron
 Staff Sergeant Ramsay Tandal to the rank of Tech. Sergeant, 944th Logistics Readiness Squadron
 Tech. Sergeant Michael Giarnieri to the rank of Master Sergeant, 924th Maintenance Squadron
 Tech. Sergeant P. Cheezum to the rank of Master Sergeant, 924th Fighter Group

The following members were promoted 1 November 2013:

Airman Austin L. Fifield to the rank of Airman 1st Class, 414th Maintenance Squadron
 Airman Quereshia L. Love to the rank of Airman 1st Class, 414th Maintenance Squadron
 Airman Tyler J. Maxey to the rank of Airman 1st Class, 944th Logistics Readiness Squadron
 Airman Akeal D. Odom to the rank of Airman 1st Class, 944th Logistics Readiness Squadron
 Airman 1st Class Megan A. Goodwine to the rank of Senior Airman, 414th Maintenance Squadron
 Airman 1st Class Joshua A. Hurley to the rank of Senior Airman, 414th Maintenance Squadron
 Airman 1st Class Aimee Lonidier to the rank of Senior Airman, 414th Maintenance Squadron
 Senior Airman Christin Budzynski to the rank of Staff Sergeant, 414th Maintenance Squadron
 Staff Sergeant Rachel M. Cook to the rank of Tech. Sergeant, 924th Maintenance Squadron
 Staff Sergeant Simon M. Dimant to the rank of Tech. Sergeant, 944th Force Support Squadron
 Tech. Sergeant Jonathan D. Erb to the rank of Master Sergeant, 414th Maintenance Squadron
 Master Sergeant Bryan R. Ebersole to the rank of Senior Master Sergeant, 944th Medical Squadron
 Senior Master Sergeant Michael E. Thornton to the rank of Chief Master Sergeant, 924th Maintenance Squadron





Welcome Home!!

Senior Airman Avory Battle, 944th Civil Engineer Squadron,
returned home from Southwest Asia

Staff Sergeant Michael Barrett, 944th Civil Engineer Squadron,
returned home from Southwest Asia

Staff Sergeant Talia Eames, 944th Civil Engineer Squadron,
returned home from Southwest Asia

Staff Sergeant Victor Pimentel, 944th Logistics Readiness Squadron,
returned home from Transit Center at Manas, Kyrgyz Republic

Staff Sergeant Reynaldo Rico, 944th Civil Engineer Squadron,
returned home from Southwest Asia

Staff Sergeant Joshua Taylor, 944th Civil Engineer Squadron,
returned home from Southwest Asia

Tech. Sergeant Jesse Cisero, 944th Civil Engineer Squadron,
returned home from Southwest Asia

Tech. Sergeant Chad Hunsaker, 944th Civil Engineer Squadron,
returned home from Southwest Asia

Tech. Sergeant Thomas Kiser, 944th Civil Engineer Squadron,
returned home from Southwest Asia

Tech. Sergeant Julie McBroom, 944th Logistics Readiness Squadron,
returned home from Southwest Asia

Senior Master Sergeant Kenneth Fay, 944th Civil Engineer Squadron,
returned home from Southwest Asia

Fellow Citizen Airmen,

Beginning on 1 Oct. 13, Air Force Reserve Command will implement a new tuition assistance payment process. This new process will enable the Air Force to send tuition payments directly to a university or college through an automated system.

The process will eliminate the need for our Reservists to pay tuition costs up-front. Also, the automated system reduces the burden on our Citizen Airmen and allows them to focus on their education, instead of the reimbursement process.

Members will continue to apply for tuition assistance through the Air Force Virtual Education Center. Students may start applying now for classes that begin on or after 1 Oct. 13. More information can be found at the Virtual Education website (This website is available only from a CAC-enabled computer): <https://www.my.af.mil/afvecprod>

Thanks for all you do,

JAMES F. JACKSON, Lt Gen, USAF
Commander



Daddy Read a Book
Stories Connecting Families



Stay connected
during deployment

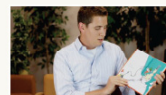
Daddy Read a Book connects you and your children during deployment or another long-term separation by filming you reading your children's favorite books out loud and giving that video to your family to watch at home.

As a nonprofit organization, our videos are completely free to you. During a one-hour filming session, we'll film as many books as possible, either books you bring or books from our library of classic children's books.

Luke Air Force Base Chapel

Last Monday of every month
9:00 am to 2:00 pm

Contact SSgt Kenyon or Chaplain Barns



AIR FORCE RESERVE PRESENTS OUR OFFICIAL

FACEBOOK

- FAN PAGE -

*** UPDATES WITH ***

RELEVANT POSTS

*** VERY OFTEN ***

AIRMAN AND CIVILIAN NEWS
NEWS LINKS - MILITARY UPDATES
LOCAL HAPPENINGS - AF TRIVIA - DOD HISTORY
QUESTIONS ANSWERED - AF & DOD MULTIMEDIA

BECOME A FAN LIKE OUR PAGE

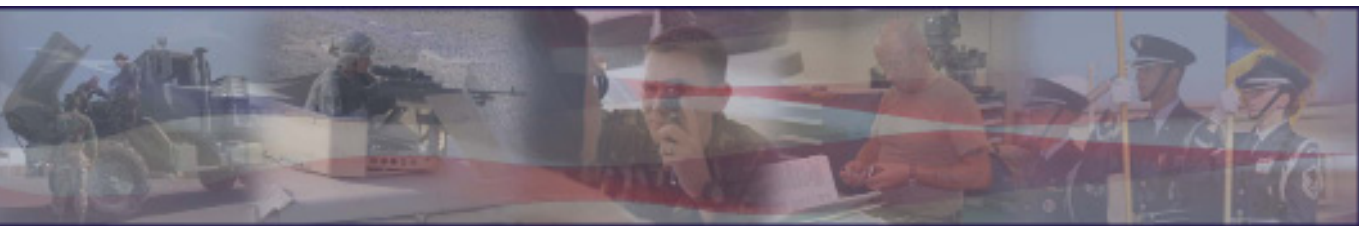
WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/USAIRFORCERESERVE



The Affordable Care Act - Tricare

With TRICARE, you and your family have minimum essential coverage (MEC) required by January 1, 2014, under the Affordable Care Act, as long as you: maintain your TRICARE program option (including staying up to date on payments for premium-based plans), and keep your DEERS information up to date. Minimum essential coverage must be in place by January 1, 2014. Most people who do not meet this provision of the law will be required to pay a fee for each month they do not have adequate coverage. This fee will be collected with your 2014 tax returns. TRICARE Young Adult, TRICARE Retired Reserve, TRICARE Reserve Select, and the Continued Health Care Benefit Program do not meet MEC unless coverage is purchased. Those eligible for direct care only (MTF care only) or for Line of Duty conditions only do not meet MEC. The DoD will inform the IRS of all individual beneficiaries who had TRICARE MEC based on information listed in the DEERS.

Should you lose your TRICARE coverage at any time, you can find other health care coverage options at www.healthcare.gov. For more information, visit www.tricare.mil/aca or call your United Healthcare Military & Veterans 877-988-9378.

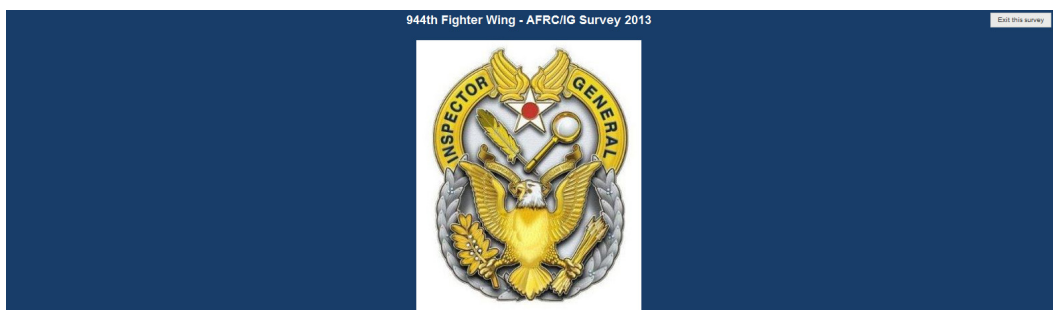


Unit Inspections Survey

The Air Force has changed the way Formal Unit Inspections will be conducted from here on out. The 944th Fighter Wing inspection in March 2014 changed from a CUI to a UEI due to this new process. Part of the UEI and part of our final grade will be based on the unit survey sent out for everyone to accomplish. Everyone needs to complete this short survey to provide Head Quarters an understanding of who we are and what we think. The survey results provide a baseline for HQ and helps them determine their inspection team numbers. The more information we provide them means fewer inspectors need to visit us.

Please take the time to accomplish this survey over the next two months. Deadline for completion is Dec. 21, 2013. Completion of the survey is a direct reflection on the attitude and reputation of this great fighter wing.

Some notable comments as you begin the Wing Survey:



Survey Questions

For this survey, your **unit** is the squadron you're assigned to. Questions that reference **unit commander** are intended to be a reflection of your squadron commander. Questions referencing your **leadership chain** are intended to be a reflection of your entire leadership chain from supervisor to squadron commander. If you're a member of a group staff or wing staff, please consider your "unit" to be your commander and the commander's staff.

Please answer questions based on your experience in your current unit only.

- The survey is open and ready for your inputs.
- It will only take approximately 20 minutes to complete.
- Be honest with your answers; it will make the results more meaningful for our wing.
- All of the information you provide is protected in IG channels; none of the data will be released outside of HQ Air Force Reserve Command Inspector General or Secretary of the Air Force IG.
- If you are a civilian employee, please indicate you are a "Department of the Air Force civilian" at the appropriate question.
- We value the opinions of your spouses, and have developed questions for them as well.
- This survey will close at the end of the duty day on Monday, Dec. 21, 2013.

Utilize the survey link below:
944 FW Survey Link: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/944FW2013>

AF implements changes to PT assessment

by Staff Sgt. David Salanitri, Air Force Public Affairs Agency, Operating Location - Pentagon

The Air Force has released further guidance on the implementation of several changes to the physical assessment test, which will take place Oct. 21.

The new guidance includes additions to the body composition component of the fitness assessment, delegation of appeal authority for fitness assessments and changes to the walk test.

According to the new policy, those taking only the abdominal circumference component of the fitness assessment will pass with the component minimum score as opposed to the composite 75 score as was previously required. Males must now achieve an abdominal circumference of 39 inches, which is also the component minimum. Females must now achieve an abdominal circumference of 35.5 inches, which is also their component minimum.

Airmen who fail the abdominal circumference, or AC, measurement but score 75 points out of the remaining 80 points on the other components will take the body mass index, or BMI, screen, the policy states. If the Airman does not pass the BMI screen, the Airman will take a body fat assessment, or BFA. If the Airman passes either the BMI screen or BFA, the Airman passes the body composition component of the fitness assessment. This addition to the body composition component upholds our confidence in the AC measurement while allowing those rare Airmen who fail the AC measurement, but do very well on the other three components, to meet the DOD body fat standards.

Additionally, the policy states that to pass the BMI screen, regardless of age or gender, the Airman must achieve a BMI equal to or less than 25 kg/m². This figure is obtained using the height and weight measurements taken at the beginning of the fitness assessment. To pass the BFA, males must achieve a body fat percentage equal to or less than 18 percent. Females must achieve a body fat percentage equal

to or less than 26 percent. These percentages are obtained using the two or three site taping procedures.

The wing commander or equivalent will be the first appeal authority for fitness assessments. This change will expedite the appeals process and put the chain of command back in the appeals process. The second appeal authority will be the Fitness Assessment Advisory Board at Air Force Personnel Center. The final appeal authority is the Air Force Board of Correction of Military Records.

The last clarification that has been made is to the walk test.

In an effort to simplify administration of the walk test, the heart rate measurement will no longer be required. An Airman must now walk two kilometers in a certain amount of time dependent on age and gender. The walk test will be pass / fail and added as an exemption in AFFMS. The remaining composite score will be based on the overall score from the remaining three categories (AC, push-ups, and sit-ups). Those performing the walk test will be required to test every six months.

"These adjustments to the Air Force fitness program will strengthen the program and continue to promote a "Fit to Fight" mentality", said Col. Dawn Keasley, the chief of the military force policy division.

For more information, contact your unit fitness program monitor, your fitness assessment cell, or visit <http://www.afpc.af.mil/affitness-program/>





Commander discusses future of Air Force Reserve

by Col. Bob Thompson, Air Force Reserve Public Affairs

Discussing the future of the Air Force, senior military and industry leaders gathered at the Air Force Association's 2013 Air and Space Conference and Technology Exposition, at the Gaylord National Resort and Convention Center at National Harbor, Md., Sept. 16-18.

More than 5,000 U.S. and allied-nation Airmen along with corporate and media representatives attended the annual event to discuss challenges and financial austerity facing the Air Force and aerospace community.

"The most important thing we have is our Airmen," said Lt. Gen. James F. Jackson, chief of Air Force Reserve at the Pentagon and commander of Air Force Reserve Command at Robins Air Force Base, Ga.

"Our Reserve Component programs retain the Air Force's investment," said Jackson. "Retaining 'Airmen for Life' saves recruiting, training and education dollars."

As senior leaders make structure and budgetary decisions, they will be adjusting the active component and reserve component mix.

The Air Force Reserve is part of every Air Force core mission. However, the future roles and missions of the Reserve Component will be a key part of leveraging the cost advantages while keeping the right balance of Air Force

capability and capacity.

"The biggest challenge to Air Force Reserve is funding and how we keep 'Tier One' ready," said Jackson during a conference breakout session.

"Tier One" means being ready now. Currently, Air Force reservists train to same



standards as regular component Airmen and prepare to deploy in 72 hours or less.

"We need to figure out which missions are best suited for the Air Force Reserve," said Jackson. "We need to do what's best for the Air Force. Take mission sets and put them into the component that can make the best use of them. Mission and functional areas also need to be big enough for a force development pyramid so our Airmen can clearly see their

path to success."

In many cases, the Reserve Component reduces life-cycle costs to the Air Force by recruiting and retaining reservists who have leading-edge, high-tech skills that they use in their civilian jobs. These reservists bring valuable insight and innovation to military programs.

"Citizen Airmen want to serve," Jackson said. "They want to put their combat-tested operational experience to use."

"Together, we provide Global Vigilance, Global Reach and Global Power better than anyone else," Jackson said. "Three components are what the Air Force needs to get the most capability and capacity out of it. Three components actually helped to mitigate some of sequestration's effects."

In the coming months of 2014, Congressional leaders will review Air Force structure and budget plans for fiscal year 2015. New-updated enterprise-wide actions will make the Reserve Component Airmen more accessible to planners who wish to capitalize on the strengths of each component.

"When the Air Force fills combatant commander requirements, every single one of our Airmen should be in that planning," Jackson said. "We are now using all of the Total Force and that is a good thing."

"We are a combat-ready force with operational capability, strategic depth and surge capacity," he said. "We're going to keep on doing what we've been doing - providing combat-ready Airmen."

PII violators will have network accounts locked

by Maj. Brooke Brander, Air Force Space Command Public Affairs

People who inappropriately store and transmit Personally Identifiable Information over the Air Force Network will now have their accounts locked in response to the violation.

"We are taking several steps to improve notification and reporting of PII incidents," said Gen. William L. Shelton, Air Force Space Command commander. "My intent is to increase awareness within the Air Force as part of my responsibility to ensure the security and defense of the AFNET and its users. PII violations create both a personal and operational risk for all of us."

The 68th Network Warfare Squadron and 352nd Network Warfare Squadron, as the Cyberspace Defense Analysis Weapon System, are actively monitoring the AFNET for PII breaches and violations. When a PII breach is identified, it is reported to the 624th Operations Center, and the formal reporting process is initiated.

The 624th OC, as the Cyber Command and Control Mission System Weapon System, reports the AFNET PII breach to the 24th Air Force commander. This action will result in locking the violator's AFNET account and notifying the person's wing commander.

"Beginning Oct. 24, we began locking out the AFNET account of individuals who were found to be inappropriately transmitting PII data

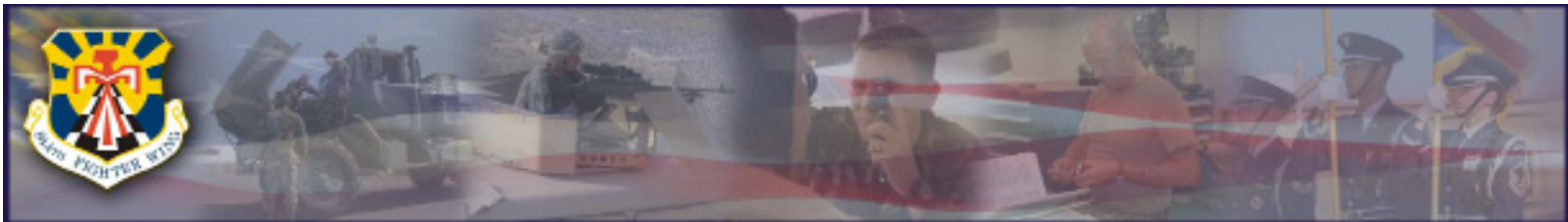
via the AFNET," said Air Force Maj. Gen. J. Kevin McLaughlin, 24th Air Force and Air Forces Cyber commander. "A violator's account will only be unlocked once the first O-6 in their chain of command certifies that the individual has accomplished all necessary actions to include remedial training."

These new actions are in addition to, and do not circumvent or replace, the normal Privacy Act notification process, which is already in place throughout the Air Force. Air Force Instruction 33-332 governs the PII breach reporting process as well as the consequences for PII violations.

PII is any information about an individual that can be used directly, or in connection with other data, to identify, contact or locate that person and can include such information as: full name, address, Social Security number, medical, educational, financial, legal and employment records.

A PII breach is defined as a loss of control, compromise, unauthorized disclosure, unauthorized acquisition, unauthorized access or any similar term referring to situations where persons other than authorized users, and for an other than authorized purpose, have access or potential access to PII, whether physical or electronic.

Encrypting PII allows secure transmission. Additional information on protecting PII can be found of the Air Force Portal under the Cyber Threats and Information tab as well as at <http://dpclo.defense.gov/privacy>.



Leaders advise against merging Guard, Reserve

by Col. Bob Thompson, Air Force Reserve Public Affairs

Air Force Reserve leaders told members of the National Commission on the Structure of the Air Force that merging the Air Force Reserve with the Air National Guard would create little value and cause numerous adverse impacts - detracting from the broader goal of improving the Air Force structure.

Appointed by the fiscal 2013 National Defense Authorization Act, the commissioners listened to testimony Oct. 24-25. They are looking at the Air Force's structure to determine if and how it should be changed to meet future missions and funding challenges. Their report and recommendations are due to the president by Feb. 1, 2014.

"I believe the nation benefits from the synergistic value of a three-component Air Force consisting of the Active Duty, Air Force Reserve and Air National Guard," said Lt. Gen. James F. Jackson, chief of Air Force Reserve and commander of Air Force Reserve Command, during his testimony on Oct. 24.

Members of the National Commission on the Structure of the Air Force interviewed senior leaders - from past and present, active duty, guard and reserve - to review proposals to integrate the Air Force Reserve and the Air National Guard into one reserve component.

"I do not believe combining the AFR and ANG is beneficial or value-added to our nation," Jackson told the commission. "A merger of the (two components) has been discussed many times during the 65 years of our history, yet has never materialized."

The commissioners also met with the top enlisted leaders of each of the three components and asked about strengths, capabilities, improvements, shortfalls, resiliency, participation, recruiting, retention and morale.

"We have met our recruiting goal for the 13th consecutive year," said Chief Master Sgt. Cameron B. Kirksey, AFRC command chief, during his testimony to the commission Oct. 25. "Our retention rate has averaged 88 percent for the past seven years. Morale continues to be high, and our Airmen want to serve more than ever.

"We are concerned with the current budget environment and the effects of sequestration," he said. "From furloughs and paycheck losses, to the stress caused by financial uncertainty, the resiliency of the force is being tested, with the long-term impacts yet to be fully understood."

Regular Air Force, Air National Guard and Air Force Reserve Airmen work together around the world as a team in air, space and cyberspace. Today's Total Force consists of about 327,600 active-duty Airmen in the Regular Air Force along with 105,400 Air National Guardsmen and 70,880 Air Force Reserve Airmen actively serving in the Selected Reserve as designated by the FY13 National Defense Authorization Act. The Air Force Reserve also maintains a strategic depth of more than 790,000 stand-by or non-participating reservists and retirees who can be called up for national emergencies.

"We deliver our diverse portfolio of capability through air, space and cyberspace as a federal reserve, always in Title 10 status, whether at home or abroad," Kirksey said.

"The Air Force Reserve always serves in Title 10 status as the federal member of the Air Reserve Component," said Jackson.

This is the third time Jackson has spoken to the commission. In previous testimony, he told the commission about an analytical simulation tool called the "Individual Cost Assessment Model," which can determine an Airman's overall life-cycle cost, in all three components.

Leveraging the cost-effectiveness, capability and capacity of the reserve and guard during this time of fiscal austerity is of keen interest to the commission. Led by the Honorable Dennis M. McCarthy, a retired Marine Corps lieutenant general and the previous assistant secretary of Defense for Reserve Affairs at the Pentagon, the commission has visited and interviewed Airmen across the country. The vice chair is the Honorable Erin Conaton, a former undersecretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness and previous under secretary of the Air Force.



Turn Off Automated Records Management System (ARMS) access for Members

The Air Force Personnel Center plans to turn off access to the Automated Records Management System, better known as ARMS, for Airmen on AFPC Secure 30 Sep 13.

As you already know, ARMS consolidated RegAF, Reserve and Air National Guard military personnel records from each installation to the respective personnel center over the last couple of years. This has reduced manpower, cut costs and improved customer service. In addition the Air Force released access to the Personnel Records Display Application, known as PRDA, in 2009.

PRDA is an electronic viewer for ARMS which facilitates search, retrieval and management of personnel records in ARMS through role based access. PRDA's role based access allows members, supervisors, first sergeants,

commanders and management levels access to personnel records within their purview. PRDA also displays the ARMS documents in a tiered folder display allowing customers to review like documents easily.

To access military personnel documents, Airmen should visit the Air Force's myPers website at <https://mypers.af.mil>. Once logged into myPers, scroll down to the "I would like to" section and click on the link labeled, "View My Records [PRDA]". After clicking on the link, users will be directed to AFPC Secure and a consent form will pop up. This form notifies the user they are accessing a U.S. Government Information System and is for authorized use only. Users who agree to the terms must click the "OK" button to access PRDA.

Over the last few years functionality has been

added to PRDA to ensure Airmen can view their documents, to include their promotion selection folder documents and their "As-met" promotion record after a promotion release in an intuitive user friendly format. The link to ARMS is being turned off because one, it's no longer needed, and two, providing two locations to acquire personnel information has made it very confusing for Airmen.

MPS or other organizations with ARMS access for organizational or institutional use will not be affected. Only the "ARMS Member" role is being disabled.

For more information about personnel issues, visit the myPers website at <https://mypers.af.mil>. Contact afpc.dptss.workflow@us.af.mil for questions pertaining to PRDA.



Social Media is Honey and Vinegar

By Senior Master Sgt. James King, first sergeant, 944th Logistics Readiness Squadron

People are more connected today with the world around them than anytime in history. We have computers, tablets, and smartphones that allow us to see what is happening around the world, where our friends are at any given time, and tweet about the lunch menu from our favorite celebrity. This revolution of instant information is changing the world around us – both for the good and the bad. Here are some things that you should keep in mind as we continue this transformation.

It seems that almost everyone I know has a smartphone and is connected to some kind of media outlet whether it is e-mail, Facebook, Twitter, Pinterest, YouTube, etc. People are able to send and receive information from virtually anywhere and anytime. Facebook has approximately 1.15 billion users as of March 2013 and I know that most of my friends and family are part of the total. This is fantastic medium to use so grandma can see the kids playing at soccer, my wife can post her frustrations as a second grade teacher (and someone besides me will actually listen to her), and we can keep in touch with our family who are spread out around the country. Facebook has been great in keeping deployed families in touch with one another and their home unit. More than once, I have been able to get a deployed member to respond to me faster with Facebook than e-mail to their official military account. Facebook is changing how we are communicating with each other and is quickly making its way (if not already there) into the main stream. As an example, did you know that the 944th Logistics Readiness Squadron, 944th Development and Training Flight, and the 944th Fighter Wing all have Facebook pages that you can join?

As great as this transformation is to most of us, there are some problems that come with it. Using the wonderful internet I am talking about, I was able to find several negative military stories that made national news because of the media revolution. In 2005, a squadron of Marines was accused of killing unarmed men, women, and children in an Iraq village. "...cellphone photos reportedly taken by one of the Marines the day after the killings have been put forth as evidence that the killings were methodical and without resistance" was quoted in the article that was used to help the prosecution in their case. The second was something I still remember being briefed about which related to Marines urinating on corpses. "Capt. Clement was charged with dereliction of duty for not properly supervising Marines who urinated on Taliban corpses. A video of the act went viral on YouTube last year, drawing harsh criticism from the White House." Does anyone remember the Abu Ghraib prison photos? These acts put the integrity of all military personnel in question and can create a void with the public trust. Even if you do not think the pictures or video are harmful, you should

always know that your perception is not everyone's perception. Since other people's perception is what we have to take into account and we don't know how everyone will interpret the information, it is almost impossible to do. Because of this, you should always consider the most conservative views in anything you post.

Let me paint a picture – TDY to Hawaii with your squadron. People are having a great time on a Friday night at the club; everyone is there from the youngest airman to the squadron commander. People are having drinks and your Lieutenant or Captain is doing drinking with the other members in the unit who are enlisted. This is a great time for bonding and building unit cohesiveness. Everyone is having fun with no ill intentions in anyone's mind. In my opinion, social gatherings on TDYs are critical in creating the bond within the unit – both for officers and enlisted.

Now let me put on a different "perception hat". A picture was taken and posted on Facebook of the Captain drinking with the enlisted with a caption "Captain is one of us!! at Hickam AFB Club". This photo is seen by someone who thinks it is inappropriate or maybe unprofessional and it gets sent up to a Air Force General. What do you think is going to happen? The unit commander will be in front of the wing commander explaining what happened. The perception from the picture may (and probably will) impact the Commander and Captain's career (remember that Fraternization is not allowed in the military). Even though this was innocent and the event was incredible at building "esprit de corp" within the unit, the picture's perception does not tell the entire story. Remember that every post on line is there forever. Even if this did not come up now – what would happen if it surfaced when the Captain is being considered for Colonel or General later in their career? You need to be careful what you post or say because it is admissible in court and may come back to bite you or someone else.

I will end with this thought – even though you may not post a picture that could be taken the wrong way, you don't know who will. Everyone has a camera phone and Facebook is seconds away. Be aware of your surroundings and if you are in a situation where it may be questioned or taken the wrong way, ask every to leave the pictures/posts to a more suitable time. This may save you or your friends from facing unnecessary negative consequences.

Information used for article taken from the following websites http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Haditha_killings and <http://www.washingtontimes.com/news/2013/sep/7/marine-corps-retreats-court-martial-charges-taliba/>.





Air Reserve Personnel Center podcast 14 - retirement pay

Brig. Gen. Jay Flournoy, commander of the Air Reserve Personnel Center, talks about calculating retirement pay and how to ensure Air Force Reserve members receive their pay on time in his most recent podcast. To view this podcast visit <http://www.arpc.afrc.af.mil/news/video/index.asp?cid=681&sid=36696>.

This video is part of a series of podcasts to communicate with Citizen Airmen on a wide variety of topics including customer service such as the Total Force Service Center, personnel programs like assignments and force development, and safety information during the Critical Days of Summer Safety Campaign.

To view more of Flournoy's podcasts, go to ARPC Video page at <http://www.arpc.afrc.af.mil/news/video/index.asp?cid=681>.



The 944th Aeromedical Staging Squadron and the Carl Hayden Veterans Administration medical center collaborated to make history during Operation Swift Savior, a patient evacuation exercise Sept. 16 - 20.

AF clarifies same sex marriage policy

by Staff Sgt. David Salanitri, Air Force Public Affairs Agency, Operating Location - Pentagon

The Air Force recently published guidance clarifying the service's policy on implementation of same sex marriage.

The guidance clarifies how Airmen may be eligible for administrative absence to obtain legal marriage, if the state or country they are stationed in does not yet recognize same sex marriage.

In order to be granted administrative absence, the Airman must be located more than 100 miles from a U.S. state, the District of Columbia or other jurisdictions that allows the couple to marry. According to the policy, if two service members are part of a couple and desire to get married, both members may be granted an administrative absence if qualified.

Members may be granted up to seven days if stationed in the continental United States, and up to 10 days if stationed overseas. The waiting period, required by law, to obtain a legal marriage from the jurisdiction nearest the assignment location is what determines the days. Also, a maximum of two travel days is authorized if stationed in the continental U.S., and five days is authorized if the member is stationed overseas.

"This will allow all Airmen to be recognized equally under the law in regards to spousal benefits," said Maj. Mark Cipolla, Air Force force management policy division.

In order to determine eligibility, refer to AFI 36-3003, Military Leave Program.

KEY NOTES:

Air Force Sergeants Association (AFSA): The Luke AFSA chapter meets the second Wednesday of every month at Club 56 in the Barcelona Room at 1100. The next meeting will be on Wednesday, 13 November. If you are unfamiliar with this organization and the benefits it provides to you and the Luke and AF communities, please visit the Luke Chapter website <http://afsachapter1260.weebly.com/>. AFSA is the "Voice of the Enlisted" and places power in each of your hands concerning issues that affect your careers now, future, and after you've retired. They are also involved in and support many programs on Luke AFB and get involved in programs in the local community. The Luke AFSA is an integral part of AFSA division 12 which encompasses the states of Arizona, Nevada, and New Mexico and they serve Air Force Active Duty, Air Force Reserve, Air National Guard, and retired enlisted members and their families of all grades.



2014 R-Games: Registration for The Reserve Officers Association's inaugural R-Games, March 22, 2014, is now online. Individuals and three-person teams can register by visiting www.roa.org/rgames. R-Games is a one day military-skills competition that will separate the citizens from the warriors. With team categories for all branches, reserves, active duty, officers and enlisted, R-Games will leave one team with plenty to brag about. But that's not all: the top Reserve team will receive an all-expenses paid trip to represent the United States at the 2014 CIOR (Interallied Confederation of Reserve Officers) International Games in Fulda, Germany. For more information on team registration and event categories visit www.roa.org/rgames.