



HIGH MACH

Serving the World's Premier Flight Simulation Test Center



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AEDC's F100 engine test underway to bring latest technology to sustain fighter

By Philip Lorenz III
Aerospace Testing Alliance

AEDC engineers are conducting altitude testing in test cell J-1 on an F100 engine that powers the F-15 Eagle and F-16 Fighting Falcon as part of a Continuous Improvement Program (CIP) project.

"The main objective is to test the redesigned third stator," said Lt. Drew Miller, the Air Force project manager on this test. "More reliable and durable parts are what we're hoping for [with this test]."

Compressor stators are non-rotating groups of airfoils, mounted from the compressor outer case, intended to optimize the angle at which airflow enters an adjacent downstream group of rotating airfoils (rotor). Stator design influences aeromechanical, stability and efficiency characteristics of the compressor which, in turn, influences engine thrust, fuel efficiency and life.

Gary Meuer, the ATA project manager on the test, said, "It's a component improvement program (CIP) to evaluate new parts that go into the engine."

For the first phase of the test, the engine was instrumented with strain gauges in the compressor to allow the customer and sponsor to get important deflection and stress data for use in assessing the aeromechanical performance of the third stator.

"They wanted to look at how the stresses are imposed on the blades when you do performance calibrations [and] transient maneuvers," Meuer



From left, Joan Clark, ATA instrument technician lead, and Paul Buckner, ATA working foreman, verify locations of instrumentation for troubleshooting discrepancies during a break in a test run of a F100 engine in AEDC's J-1 test cell. (Photo by Rick Goodfriend)

said. "Once that's done then we take out the instrumented third stator and put another clean third stator back in the engine that has no instrumentation, it's clean but it's in that same configuration."

Another task of this program is to obtain "engine modeling data."

Meuer said, "They're filling in databases for the math models that predict engine behavior."

The test team will measure data on engine parameters at multiple conditions and throttle positions to correlate the oper-

ability and performance computer models to the measured data from the test article which has all the features of updates and upgrades over the years that were incrementally added to the engine configuration.

"The purpose of doing that is to put more fidelity into their model, allow them to tweak it better," Meuer said. "In addition to the CIP tasks, the customer has added hardware that will improve durability on the compressors first blade and second vane."

These tests support technol-

ogy integration tasks that will bring fifth generation fighter engine technology to the F100-PW229 model.

According to the sponsors, the testing will result in increased part durability while maintaining or decreasing the amount of air required to be diverted from the main flow-path of the engine for cooling.

"These improvements will allow these engines to continue their excellent safety record while increasing future capabilities," Meuer said.



Arnold to honor POW/MIAs

By Shawn Jacobs
Aerospace Testing Alliance

AEDC Commander Col. Michael T. Brewer will host a Prisoner of War/Missing in Action (POW/MIA) Recognition Day Sept. 15.

Opening ceremonies will begin at 8 a.m. at the track near the A&E building. A run/walk will feature the POW/MIA flag being carried around the track until closing ceremonies at 3:30 p.m.

Fund-raising will consist of a burger burn between 11 a.m. and 1 p.m. and POW/MIA T-shirt sales. The POW/MIA T-shirt has been authorized as uniform of the day. All proceeds will be donated to charity.

The national POW/MIA Recognition Day begins each year with the president issuing a proclamation commemorating the observances to remind the nation of those Americans who have sacrificed so much for their country. Observances of national POW/MIA Recognition Day are held across the country on mili-

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Polce is busy planning more adventures for his retirement

By Shawn Jacobs
Aerospace Testing Alliance

After reaching the mountaintop of his career, Ron Polce, director of AEDC's Test Systems Division, will concentrate more on literal mountains after his retirement Sept. 2.

An avid outdoorsman and physical fitness enthusiast, Polce is retiring after 38 years of combined federal service, including military service – four years of which were at AEDC – and 31 years as an Air Force civilian employee.

"I've been blessed with a great career," Polce said. "I've been able to do a lot of things here at the center – a lot of things outside the center – and I still feel pretty adventuresome. With my good health and my family, I believe it's time to go off and start doing a few more things in that line."

"I have a grandson in St. Louis; I hope to spend more time with him. There's no one particular factor that led me to my retirement decision, just a culmination of



Polce

what I believe to have been a good career for me, great adventures in the past and more exciting things to do in the future."

Known as a team builder and enabler, Polce's remarkable career exposed him to diverse facets of AEDC's operations.

"I've been very fortunate to have had great bosses and leaders who gave me opportunities to work in virtually all of the government functions, beginning first with the construction and activation of ASTF [Aeropropulsion Systems Test Facility], one of our newest facilities that's now 25 years old," Polce said.

"[I then moved] into the support arena where I truly learned about customer service from our dedicated mission support services folks.

"Moving on to directly working the test mission was a real privilege. Watching our test program managers, test engineers, operators and maintainers work hand in hand to create the testing conditions from our machines and computers seems almost magical. Sometimes I still believe it is. My latest assignment sort of takes me back to my AEDC beginnings, working with a phenomenal group of people responsible for pushing our technology limits and delivering the technical facility improvements to keep AEDC viable. I have been very blessed with getting those varied assignments. It's been very rewarding."

Polce's longevity and variety of assignments have allowed him to amass a corporate knowledge that is matched by few at AEDC.

"We're going to miss his knowledge," Clark Brandon, deputy chief of the Mission

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Sen. Bob Corker is keynote speaker at annual ACC membership dinner Oct. 14



Sen. Bob Corker, right, was among the lawmakers Arnold Community Council members met during their trip to Washington in 2010. Senator Corker will be the keynote speaker at the council's annual membership dinner Oct. 14. (Photo provided)

U.S. Senator Bob Corker will be the special guest speaker at the annual membership dinner of the Arnold Community Council (ACC).

The event will be held Oct. 14 at the Manchester-Coffee County Conference Center, located off Exit 114 in Manchester.

The reception begins at 5:30 p.m., with dinner at 6:30 p.m. and the program at 7:30 p.m.

Table sponsorships are available for the dinner.

A "gold" sponsorship is \$650 and includes 10 seats at a reserved table, 10 ACC individual one-year memberships and recognition in the program, dinner slideshow and on the ACC website.

A "silver" sponsorship is

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HIGH MACH

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An Air Force Materiel Command Test Center

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The center's vision: AEDC as the test center of choice, the workplace of choice for our people and a model of environmental excellence.



Vision

"ATA will be a trusted partner in delivering best value warfighter support and assert stewardship to AEDC"

Core Values

- Be accountable for our own actions
- Ensure the safety of individuals and equipment
- Demonstrate the highest integrity and ethical standards
- Communicate clearly and openly
- Deliver professional and technical excellence
- Nurture, enable and treat people fairly
- Align with customer goals and objectives
- Use disciplined and innovative processes
- Continually improve in all that we do



Core Values

- Integrity first
- Service before self
- Excellence in all we do

Ten years later Tragic losses of 9/11 reflect nation's unity, strength

By Gen. Donald Hoffman
AFMC Commander



Hoffman

WRIGHT-PATTERSON AFB, Ohio – Ten years ago we experienced a tragic attack on our nation -- an attack that changed our lives and changed our national security focus. Though we suffered great loss, the devastation on Sept. 11 failed to achieve its intended goals. Rather than causing us to shrink, we grew stronger; instead of breaking us apart, we became more unified and determined. In the face of terrorism, we refused to fall prey to our enemies' fear-inducing tactics. We stood together then and we stand together now.

Every year on the anniversary of Sept. 11, we observe Patriot Day to both pay respect to victims and celebrate the steadfastness of our great nation. We must never forget those we lost, but we must do more than simply remember them. We must fortify our

spirits and remain united in preventing new attacks. Our individual and collective resilience, resolve and commitment to core values are our key strengths. We honor and celebrate the resoluteness of individuals, families and communities across America.

Department of Defense civilian and military members have known no rest during these last 10 years. Since Sept. 11, 2001, our Air Force accomplished more than 1 million deployments. Right now, we have more than 40,000 Airmen deployed, with average tour lengths of 179 days. We fly an average of 530 sorties daily over Iraq and Afghanistan. Each deployment and

combat operation carries inherent personal risks. We can never forget America's sons and daughters who gave their lives to defend our freedom and ensure our nation's security. As you read this, reflect a moment on the nearly 6,200 Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen and Marines who made the ultimate sacrifice in military operations and the approximately 45,600 who were wounded in action, all in the service of our country. These patriots exemplify service and selfless sacrifice.

Our nation's efforts paid off. We sharply reduced the capabilities of terrorist groups through the collaborative efforts of the international community. We

remain committed to working with partners around the world to confront and counter violent extremists. Through concerted effort and vigilance, we deterred and prevented additional attempts to attack the United States.

Take time this Patriot Day to unite in remembrance of victims and their families and to honor the continued sacrifice of our civilian and military service members. Thank you for your contributions to Air Force Materiel Command, to the Air Force and to the United States. Finally, thank you for being unyielding in your devotion to keeping America the greatest nation on earth.

Reach out and let that true TEAM AEDC spirit shine!

By Ron Polce
Director, AEDC's Test Systems Division

Look around. Chances are you see someone who deserves a "thank you," needs a pat on the back or would appreciate a smile to let them know you appreciate who they are, what they've done, and how they have made some positive impact on you, the workplace or our communities.

Chances are you also see someone where your relationship isn't so good and that relationship could use a little mending.

Well now's a great time to work on a key ingredient to TEAM AEDC's spirit and that is individual relationships.

So reach out and let that true TEAM AEDC spirit shine!

We're blessed to be celebrating AEDC's 60th anniversary this year.

Just think, a mere 60 years ago President Harry S. Truman stood on the Warehouse loading dock celebrating the remarkable accomplishment of constructing the world's most advanced complex of test facilities and dedicating it as the Arnold Engineering Development Center.

(Yes, I can say a "mere 60 years" considering I too went through a 60th anniversary of sorts a while back and it's amazing how your time perspective changes over time.)

Can you imagine the TEAM AEDC spirit that must have existed while building this great installation and during the early years of operation?

Fortunately, there are still family and friends among us who were a part of that great legacy and can share their memories.

I recently had dinner with four of AEDC's early pioneers and was fascinated by their stories of blazing our ground test and evaluation trail.

I can assure you if you ever have the great fortune to listen to Bill Bates, Jerry Jones, Dick Rudy and Dean Herron share their stories of shaking

down our tests facilities while testing the likes of the Mercury, Atlas Apollo, Polaris and Dynasoar test programs, you will not only get a glimpse of that TEAM AEDC spirit in the early years, you will see it still shining brightly from them today!

Well, how about the TEAM AEDC spirit since those early years and how is it today?

In a recent publication showcasing AEDC's 60 years of progress, Col. Michael Panarisi summed up the center's progress well when he said, "In these six decades, the men and women of AEDC have fostered the development of countless aircraft, ushered in new generations of spacecraft and forged the technologies needed to keep U.S. aerospace at the very leading edge in the world.

"While we stand in awe of the phenomenal facilities and equipment, it's the minds and hands behind these machines that made it all happen.

"We have been truly blessed with a team that has repeatedly faced seemingly insurmountable challenges and proved, without question, the spirit of innovation here will prevail."

These statements sure make TEAM AEDC's spirit shine brightly in my eyes, and I believe it's strong individual relationships that bind the AEDC family together and ensured our 60 years of great success.

No doubt, it's probably easier to see that "shine" during the good times when we just pulled off that important test, fixed that broken facility, passed the big inspection, went for long periods with no injuries, have all the plumbing and air conditioning working ... you name it.

However, that "shine" might not be as apparent when times aren't so good. But perhaps it's during the not-so-good times that TEAM AEDC's spirit actually shines the brightest!

While we can't neces-

sarily influence the situations placed before us, we have tremendous control on how we react to them both individually and as a team. Whether we have spent all, a part, or are just beginning a career at AEDC, we are the source to TEAM AEDC's spirit ... just like the many hundreds who have passed through the gates before us.

But we know relationships are fragile.

Therefore the important question is, "How does each one of us contribute to kindling, sustaining and expanding those relationships each and every day?"

So look around and

Life jackets saved my family on trip

By Teresa Denney
53rd Wing

EGLIN AFB, Fla. (AFNS) – My brother and his family visited us here in the beautiful Florida Panhandle last summer.

I looked forward to showing them all the exciting things to see and do.

I was also eager to take them on a boat trip. I spoke extensively about the area wildlife and the beautiful waters.

My niece was especially thrilled at the possibility of seeing dolphins. I rented a pontoon boat from outdoor recreation and waited impatiently for their arrival.

The time finally came, and we embarked on an awesome day on the water. As we got closer to our destination, a pod of dolphins came into view.

My niece was mesmerized. They gave us a thrilling show to remember. I was so happy it was all going so well.

We spent a good four to five hours cruising around before deciding to go home. By then, it was hot, and the kids wanted to take off their life jackets because of the heat, but I told them Florida law required them to keep them on while in the boat.

However, none of us adults were wearing them.

On the way home, the



Ron Polce, director of AEDC's Test Systems Division, is pictured at Glenn Pass on the John Muir Trail in the Yosemite National Park. (Photo provided)

water became choppy. Out of nowhere, a rogue wave hit the bow, and the front of the boat was instantly submerged.

My brother's wife and two kids were thrown overboard. The rest of us went flying down the length of the boat. It was total chaos.

The boat finally straightened out, and we were able to stand.

My brother and husband jumped into the water and pulled the three back into the boat. They were scared, coughing up water and battered. The adults on the boat were pretty bruised up as well and bewildered at how something like this

could happen so quickly. I hate to imagine what would've happened if those kids hadn't been wearing life jackets.

I know now that the adults should have also been wearing them too. This is a lesson I'll never forget.

No matter how confident you are in your environment, never let your guard down, and never think that you can do without a life saving device that is readily available to you.

I thank God we all came out of it safe, but I'm not sure my brother and his family will want to go out on a boat again anytime soon.

Action Line

Team AEDC,
I believe in free and open communications with our Team AEDC employees, and that's why we have the Action Line available. People can use the Action Line to clear up rumors, ask questions, suggest ideas on improvements, enter complaints or get other issues off their chests. They can access the Action Line in one of three ways: via the AEDC intranet home page, Action Line boxes at the base cafeterias and by calling 454-6000.

Although the Action Line is always available, the best and fastest way to get things resolved is by using your chain of command or by contacting the organization directly involved. I encourage everyone to go that route first, then if the situation isn't made right, give us a chance.

Col. Michael Brewer
AEDC Commander

Smoking Policy

1. The following revised AEDC smoking policy is effective immediately. Smoking is permitted solely in designated areas identified by a plastic "smoke genie." This receptacle is for the sole purpose of cigarette butt disposal. If there is no receptacle, you cannot smoke in that area. It is the responsibility of all smokers to clean up the area surrounding the receptacles for any cigarette butts on the ground. Smoking in government-owned vehicles is strictly prohibited. Personnel are allowed to smoke in their personal vehicles at any time. In case of inclement or cold weather, employees are encouraged to use their personal vehicles if a sheltered designated smoking area is not available nearby. Smoking areas will be held to the absolute minimum and will be located in low traffic, low visibility areas away from points of building ingress/egress and air intakes. A map of all authorized smoking areas is available on the AEDC web portal at [https://lpapro.arnold.af.mil/PORTALimages/Smoking area map. pdf](https://lpapro.arnold.af.mil/PORTALimages/Smoking%20area%20map.pdf). Smoking near a facility in an area not designated on the map is prohibited and any smoking receptacles located in areas not shown on the map will be removed. All "smoking permitted" and "no smoking" signs will be removed unless specifically required by OSHA.

The fact a person smokes has no bearing on the number of breaks they may take. Breaks should be taken in accordance with the company/agency personnel policies that apply to all employees.

Regarding use of smokeless tobacco, containers of tobacco waste product, including sealed containers, must not be left unattended or disposed of in trash receptacles. Users of smokeless tobacco must flush tobacco waste down the toilet. Smokeless is strictly prohibited in conference room meetings and other areas, e.g. PMEL, where Air Force regulations specifically prohibit.

- Supervisors at every level will ensure this policy is followed. Disciplinary action is appropriate for repeated violations.
- Updates to this policy will be made in the future to further align with Air Force guidelines.
- This letter supersedes previous letter dated 28 October 2006, subject as above.

AEDC is location of choice for recent SBIR test

By Philip Lorenz III
Aerospace Testing Alliance

When a small business has the opportunity to demonstrate and evaluate one of the latest technological innovations at the world's largest and most advanced ground test complex, the results can be very impressive, said Tyler Neale, a Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) test manager at AEDC.

This was the situation recently when Dr. Todd Lowe, the vice president for research and development with Applied University Research (AUR) Inc., was on hand for a test of a sub-miniature laser Doppler velocimetry (SM3 LDV) system sponsored by the Air Force in a small wind tunnel at Arnold.

So, what is an SM3 LDV and what is it used for?

"It's a measurement system that can get velocity profiles of near-field regions, so we're talking extremely close to the surface of an object, within the boundary layer flow," Neale said. "It's often extremely difficult to get experimental data close to the wall (surface) just because it's either not accessible or you're going to disrupt the flow with whatever measurement techniques you're trying to use there."

By 'object,' Neale is talking about an aircraft, spacecraft or bomb model that is being subjected to flight conditions, which could be smooth or turbulent air flow or a combination in a wind tunnel.

"This system has a probe that will be integrated into the model that's in the wind tunnel," he said. "So, it's inside the model, and it will use an array of lasers to gather flow velocity information, getting flow field data that was previously unattainable.

Often times there are some highly complex flow features within boundary layers, particularly when turbulent, that are difficult to characterize using traditional techniques. These complex features can dramatically affect the aerodynamics of a body. With the SM LDV system, we are hoping to gain a better understanding of the flow in these regions of high complexity to improve designs and potentially use the data to compare with and validate computational solutions."

According to Dr. Lowe, this region close to aerodynamic bodies such as aircraft, missiles and rockets is critically important to the performance of the entire vehicle.

"The capability to make three-dimensional velocity measurements in the near-field region of models in AEDC's unparalleled facilities will help engineers improve a variety of cutting-edge aerospace technologies," he said. "Data may be used for understanding issues with configurations under test in addition to providing detailed information to validate flow calculations, which are being used increasingly to make important design decisions."

Neale said the data, which would have contributed to previous programs, is still needed for ongoing and future work.

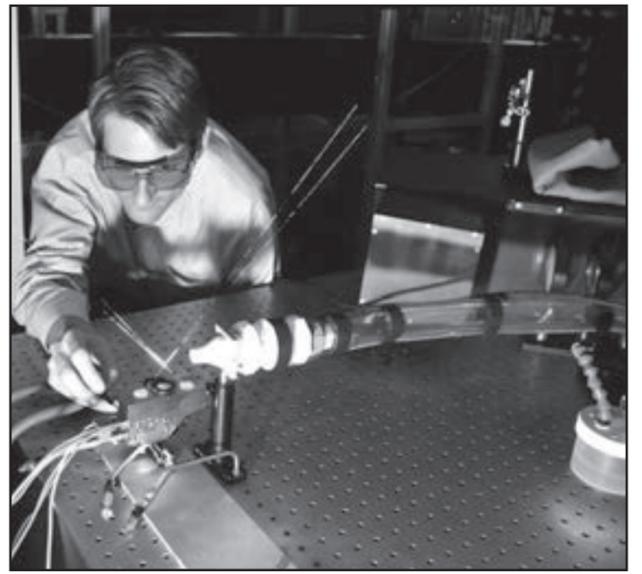
"In the past there have been tests where it would have been very useful to have some sort of measuring technique for near the surface of a model," he said. "I know with the space shuttle return to service studies, there's been a need for that. The JDAM (Joint Direct Attack Munition) had a flow anomaly on its surface that would have benefitted from this sort of technique – there would be applications for tests

where we need to characterize the flow along the surface of a model.

"There has been a demand for it, not just here at AEDC, [but] this would be applicable to other wind tunnels and [test] jet engines. You could put this system inside a jet engine and see the flow that's going into the engine, into the compressor. It will give you high resolution, three-component boundary layer velocity profiles which we previously wouldn't be able to do. It will just complement some of the other measuring techniques that we have in there like BOS (Background Oriented Schlieren) and PIV (Particle Image Velocimetry) and whatever other technology we utilize for the tunnels."

Neale said the SM3 LDV system is a smart investment.

"I guess another thing I would say with AUR, Inc., the SBIR program is really important and it's a really good thing; it's both beneficial for the government and for small businesses in the nation," he said. "AUR is an example of the success that the government can realize through this program – they've (AUR) listened to our advice and our inputs



Dr. Todd Lowe, Applied University Research, Inc., vice president for research and development inspects a sub-miniature laser Doppler velocimetry (SM3 LDV) system before it was installed in a small wind tunnel for a test at AEDC. (Photo by Rick Goodfriend)

on questions they've asked in developing the system. And I'm confident that they're going to give us a pretty robust and useful system that will help compliment our already pretty wide array of flow visualization technologies. They're one of the success stories from the SBIR program that just-

fies spending the money on this."

Dr. Lowe said ground test applications for the SM3 LDV, which is suited for "16T in particular" would include "new missiles, airframes and store separations" and be useful for testing "particularly [in the] Mach 2 to Mach 4 regimes."

Enlisted graduates to be honored

By Shawn Jacobs
Aerospace Testing Alliance

AEDC's Education and Training office will hold a graduation ceremony for six enlisted personnel who received college degrees this year.

The ceremony will be held at 1 p.m., Sept. 22 in the lobby of the Administration and Engineering (A&E) building.

Three enlisted members receiving their associate degrees from the Community College of

the Air Force (CCAF) include Staff Sgt. James Key, Senior Airman Eric Ball and Senior Airman Tara Kindermann.

Those receiving bachelor's degrees from various schools include Master Sgt. Patrick Lazarus, Tech. Sgt. John Bankston and Tech. Sgt. Danielle Morris.

AEDC Commander Col. Michael Brewer will provide opening and closing remarks.

"The graduation ceremony is to honor the achievements of six enlisted personnel who have

successfully completed all requirements to receive a college degree," said Dee Wolfe, education training specialist in the Arnold Education and Training office. "This ceremony provides enlisted members a chance to 'walk the stage' and be formally presented with a diploma. This is the third graduation ceremony we've had in the last four years."

Friends, family and supervisors of the graduates are invited, as well as other Department of Defense (DOD) employees.

John Purvis to speak at AIAA, AAPS luncheon

By Darbie Sizemore
Aerospace Testing Alliance

The American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics (AIAA) and the Arnold Association of Professional Societies (AAPS) will sponsor a luncheon meeting Sept. 14 at the Arnold Lakeside Center.

The luncheon includes a presentation by AIAA Distinguished Lecturer John W. Purvis titled "Accidents Happen: Behind the Headlines – Inside the Process of Airplane Accident Investigation."

This presentation examines large airplane accident investigations, in particular the roles played by the manufacturer and other organizations (e.g., National Transportation Safety Board [NTSB], the Federal Aviation Administration [FAA], the airline and component subcontractors).

The presentation includes several "war stories" taken from Purvis' extensive career as a "tin kicker."

Purvis was in charge of Boeing Commercial Airplane Group's accident investigation team and, since retiring from Boeing in 1998, has built a successful second career by establishing the aviation safety consulting firm Safety Services International (now part of RTI).

He is a Fellow of the Inter-



Purvis

national Society of Air Safety Investigators and has received the group's Jerome F. Lederer award for "outstanding contributions to technical excellence in accident investigation."

The Italian luncheon buffet includes bowtie and fettuccini pasta with red and white sauce, meat lasagna, bread and salad and is \$9.95 per person (\$8.95 for ALC members) payable at the door. Lunch begins at 11 a.m., followed by the presentation at 11:30 a.m.

Please RSVP by Wednesday to Joe Wehrmeyer via email at joseph.wehrmeyer@arnold.af.mil or phone at (931) 454-4345 for an accurate head count and to allow non-AEDC personnel access through the gated area to the ALC.

Patriotic Employer Award



Bob Beatty, regional director of Tennessee Employers Support for Guard and Reserve (ESGR), presents the Patriotic Employer Award to Lance Baxter, chief of AEDC's Test Technology Branch Aug. 9. The award recognizes Baxter's support as an employer of Guard and Reserve personnel. Also pictured is Ben Weaver, a member of the Tennessee Army National Guard and an aerospace engineer in the Test Technology Branch, who nominated Baxter for the award. Baxter, himself, is a major in the Air Force Reserve. (Photo provided)

Obama: Unite in spirit of service on Sept. 11

By Cheryl Pellerin
American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON (AFNS) – President Barack Obama called on the American people Aug. 29 to come together in the spirit of service and remembrance as the 10th anniversary of the Sept. 11 attacks approaches.

"In just two weeks, we'll come together as a nation to mark the 10th anniversary of the Sept. 11 attacks," the president said in his weekly address.

"We'll remember the innocent lives we lost," Obama said. "We'll stand with the families who loved them. We'll honor the heroic first responders who rushed to the scene and saved so many. And we'll pay tribute to our troops and military families, and all those who have served over the past 10 years to keep us safe and strong."

The worst terrorist attack in American history brought out

the best in the American people, he said. Americans lined up to give blood; volunteers drove across the country to lend a hand; schoolchildren donated their savings; and communities, faith groups and businesses collected food and clothing.

"We were united, and the outpouring of generosity and compassion reminded us that in times of challenge, we Americans move forward together as one people," the president said.

On Sept. 11, Obama and First Lady Michelle Obama will join the commemorations at ground zero, Shanksville, Pa., and the Pentagon.

Even Americans who can't be in New York, Pennsylvania or Virginia, he said, can be part of the commemoration by participating in the Sept. 11 National Day of Service and Remembrance.

"In the days and weeks ahead," Obama said, "folks across the

country in all 50 states will come together in their communities and neighborhoods to honor the victims of 9/11 and to reaffirm the strength of our nation with acts of service and charity."

In Minneapolis, volunteers will help restore a community center, the president said. In Winston-Salem, N.C., they'll hammer shingles and lay floors to give families a new home. In Tallahassee, Fla., they'll assemble care packages for U.S. troops overseas and their families at home. In Orange County, Calif., they'll renovate homes for veterans.

Obama and the first lady also will join a local service project, he said. Those who wish to participate can learn more about local opportunities at <http://www.serve.gov>.

"Even the smallest act of service, the simplest act of kind-

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\$325 and includes five seats at a reserved table, five ACC individual one-year memberships and recognition in the program, dinner slideshow and on the ACC website.

Individual seats are also available for \$75 each and include one seat at the dinner in the general seating area and one, one-year ACC membership.

The ACC raises money to improve awareness of AEDC by holding an annual meeting

with members of the Tennessee Legislature and the Tennessee Congressional delegation, providing welcome baskets for new military arriving at Arnold, donating to quarterly and annual military award winner, donating to the annual AEDC's Veteran's Picnic and the AEDC Children's Christmas Party and sponsoring receptions for visiting dignitaries

To learn more about the ACC, visit their website at www.arnoldcommunitycouncil.com.

Police from page 1

Support Division said. "He's been a mainstay and I call him an 'anchor point' for me and for this base, especially as we've gone through budget reductions or built up investments and put the strategy in place to keep AEDC viable.

"Just his experience in contracts – he helped run the source selection for this last contract – so the graybeards keep retiring and we younger guys are asking ourselves if we learned enough. He's made a huge impact on this

base from when he worked at ASTF to being the Investments director, so he's probably touched every piece of iron we've got out here. That's a good thing because he's taught a lot of us how to be."

Brandon said Polce hired him and has mentored for the last 20 years.

"His leadership, his ability to help you see differently, his kindness and his encouragement ... his firmness ... he was just very rounded as he tried to teach and mentor,"

Brandon explained. "He was always encouraging me to think about exercise, and I wasn't a real big exerciser. He sat me down one time and said, 'If you want to move up in the government, you need to do Air War College; you need to get your master's degree.'

"I see him in the locker room every day. He runs; I do other stuff, but we talk and huddle there. I'm going to miss his daily presence because I'm in a lot of meetings with him."

John Sutton, director of AEDC's Contracting Division, has known Polce for about 20 years and has a deep appreciation for his abilities and leadership.

"From my perspective, Ron is the most successful individual who not only understands AEDC's technical mission but also its business and strategic interests as well," Sutton said. "Few people have the talent to master all three; Ron is one of them."

Sutton said Polce demonstrated this acumen as the Air Force's program manager for the 2003 operating contract competition.

"Not many people will ever understand the enormous complexity of that position and how decisions he shaped significantly changed AEDC," Sutton explained. "Returning to a single operating contractor at AEDC is an excellent example."

Sutton has also built a personal relationship with Polce over the years.

"We've run together for years, gone on hiking trips, things of that nature," he said. "Ron has always been a mentor to me, somebody I could talk to. We could talk through difficult issues and vent emotionally, sometimes irrationally, but when you're able to do that you finally get to the best rational decision."

Sutton said the entire base has benefited from Polce's interest in physical fitness.

"He was instrumental in getting this fitness trail beside the [Administration and Engineering] building built," Sutton said. "In the mission support world he saw the need and he was the one who



Ron Polce and John Casey on the summit of Mount Whitney, Sept. 9, 2010. (Photo provided)



John and Janie Casey, Veronica and Ron Polce at the beginning of their hike on the John Muir Trail, Aug. 23, 2010. (Photo Provided)

really brought the resources together, the energy together, to get that fitness trail built. It has benefited countless people since."

Few would dispute the fact that Ron Polce is a people person and he hopes his greatest legacy will be the way he's dealt with people.

"I believe one of the more important aspects of the government's leadership role is fostering collaboration and teamwork, and I've had some good opportunities to do that, particularly during the '90s as we started down a new strategic management direction," Polce said. "We really focused on Team AEDC, working in multiple areas to

nurture and build teamwork and programs of that nature.

"I've had plenty of opportunities to work at building new facilities and bringing new test capabilities on line, but what touches me most is having been involved in helping and watching the people grow and succeed. It helped me, too, along the way."

Polce won't be going far as he rides, or runs, off into the sunset of his career. He said he will continue to reside in Moore County near Ledford Mill.

"I have some fall trips planned," he said. "I still have a few national parks that I haven't yet visited, and

I'm confident they'll get visited. I'll continue to do some volunteer work. I don't have it all planned out. I just hope to continue to be a contributor to the community, my church and, certainly, to my family."

He will also be available when AEDC needs the benefit of his vast corporate knowledge.

"If someone along the line decides that maybe they can use my advice or consultation somewhere, I'll be there for that," Polce said.

You might have to leave a message though. Chances are pretty good Polce will be scaling a mountain or hiking a trail.

Military pay processing to return to base-level FSOs in October

Military pay transaction processing is returning to base level Financial Services Offices (FSOs) in late October 2011.

This strategic move allows local FSOs to provide rapid and efficient financial support to customers.

Local FSO technicians will now be afforded the opportunity to provide individual attention for any pay issues their customers

might experience and follow them to resolution.

Consequently customers will have the assurance and peace of mind that comes from the knowledge that their issue is being worked at the lowest possible level for a quick resolution.

The end result of this process change will enhance our ability to pay our Airmen accurately and on-time.

Furthermore, you as an individual can perform many routine transactions through myPay.

DFAS has made this process easier by recently implementing a myPay mobile site.

You only need two things to get started: a mobile phone with a web browser and a myPay user account with the same Login ID and password you currently use to manage your myPay account via computer.

To enroll in myPay, simply go online to [https://](https://mypay.dfas.mil)

mypay.dfas.mil and click on the "create an Account link in the LOG IN section on the left side of the screen.

A related DFAS initiative for myPay simplifies accessing myPay via computer.

Effective July 28, 2011, military members and DoD civilian employees can now access their personal myPay account using a Common Access Card (CAC).

Simply click on the "DoD CAC Login to myPay" link to get started.

Regardless whether you have a CAC or access to a CAC-enabled computer, all myPay customers will still be able to access myPay using a login and password.

If you have any questions about the movement of military pay processing from the Air Force Financial Services Center or myPay contact the FSO at 931-454-4356 for additional information.

Job initiatives focus on vets, family members

By Donna Miles
American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON (AFNS) – President Barack Obama called on Congress Aug. 30 to move quickly on an initiative to offer tax credits to employers who hire unemployed veterans, including those with disabilities.

Speaking at the American Legion National Convention in Minneapolis, the president emphasized the nation's responsibility to care for its veterans.

"To get this done, I've proposed a Returning Heroes Tax Credit for companies that hire unemployed veter-

ans and a Wounded Warrior Tax Credit for companies that hire unemployed veterans with a disability," Obama told the assembly. "When Congress returns from recess, this needs to be at the top of the agenda."

Obama said he has directed the federal government to hire more veterans. During the past year and a half, that directive has resulted in more than 100,000 veteran hires.

The two-part initiative is designed to help the newest veterans find and get private-sector jobs, while providing tax credits for companies that hire unemployed veterans, including those with disabilities, the president explained.

AEDC's Tom Hartvigsen: Aerobatic pilot takes to the sky

By Phillip Lorenz III
ATA Public Affairs

To say that Tom Hartvigsen wanted to be a pilot long before he came to work at AEDC is an understatement.

He had his sights on being a pilot from the age of three.

Hartvigsen, an engineer with ATA's Projects and Design Engineering Department, said when he was a young child he loved watching "Flight," a TV documentary series on flight.

"It was a show about various aspects of flying and test flying and they showed dropping of the X-1 from the B-29, stuff like that," he recalled. "I had to see every episode of that."

Hartvigsen's interest in flying also included model airplanes.

"My older brother, John, was interested in model airplanes and I saw what he had and I said, 'I've got to have one of those,'" he said. "So I started building my own, too. And John actually taught me how to fly my first control-line model."

His focus on flying continued through high school and beyond.

"I originally started out to be a pilot," he said. "I wanted to be an airline pilot. About the time I got into college, the bottom fell out of the airline pilot market."

Science was another one of his passions.

"I was always interested in science; I mean science was my best subject at school, by far," Hartvigsen said. "I had a really good advantage in that my grade school science teacher was really good. He was like Mr. Wizard. And he was just a really good teacher and taught us the right stuff at that level, and at that age. So, I got a really good foundation in science from that I think. And of course I was always keenly interested in it, since I was three years old."

When Hartvigsen began attending Parks College of St. Louis University for an undergraduate degree in aerospace engineering, learning to fly was still a goal.

"I always had the notion that I was going to eventually get my pilot's license no matter what, even if I didn't get to be an airline pilot," he said. "I was going to get a pilot's license and going to do some flying. At Parks College it was really easy because just about every other room in the dormitory had a flight instructor in it and time was cheap at the airport."

Scott Hatlestad, another student in his dorm, was Hartvigsen's first flight instructor.

"He had a big influence on my early flying career," Hartvigsen said, acknowledging that his interest in flying went beyond getting a private pilot's license.

"I was interested in aero-

batics ever since I was a small child too. And of course my model airplanes were aerobatic as well."

When he first came to AEDC in 1974, Hartvigsen was involved with mechanical design for the wind tunnels. Ironically, that allowed him to do some work that reminded him of the time he had spent on model airplanes.

"I was actually doing a wide variety of work, but some of it was design of wind tunnel models (aerodynamic wind tunnel models)," he said. "But I was in a group that did a lot of stuff and we were working in the research areas, too. And I did a lot of arc heater parts and some of the stuff for the MHD (magneto-hydrodynamic) generator. It was all design and I'm still doing design engineering."

Then in 1976, Hartvigsen took an experimental flight mechanics short course at UTISI that brought him into contact with someone he never expected to meet.

"That was just a really neat course," he said. "Most of the guys in the course were test pilots. We had lectures [from different people] like Neil Armstrong."

"He gave a really good lecture on techniques for test flying and had some really good movie footage of one of his test flights [that] didn't go so well. It was of the LLRV (Lunar Landing Research Vehicle), a test vehicle for simulating the Lunar Lander."

He met and connected with some of the pilots in the class, too.

Although Hartvigsen got his pilot's license in 1971, he didn't fly that many hours and flew in rental planes.

"Before I got my own plane, I probably only had about 150 hours total," he said.

Another speaker at the UTISI experimental flight mechanics short course was Bill Kershner, a Navy veteran and experienced aerobatic pilot in Sewanee, Tenn.

"During the experimental flight mechanics short course, he [Bill] did the spin part of it and he both lectured and we got to go up in his Cessna 150 Aerobat and do some spins," Hartvigsen said. "Since I was a pilot at that time he let me initiate and recover from the spins and we were doing deep spins, five-turn spins – that was neat."

In 1988, Hartvigsen took his first introductory aerobatic flying lesson from Tom Adams in a Pitts S-2B.

"As soon as he got to full throttle, that's when I said 'I've got to have one of these,'" Hartvigsen recalled.

It wasn't until the spring of 2001 that Hartvigsen started taking regular aerobatic instruction with Ray Williams in Ashland City, Tenn., and working toward being checked out for solo



AEDC's Tom Hartvigsen stands by his aerobatic airplane, Pitts S-2B, at the Tullahoma Regional Airport. (Photo provided)

flying in a Pitts S-2B.

By August 2002, Hartvigsen had his own plane, a Pitts S-2B and an endorsement to fly it solo.

He flew that plane until 2005, when fuel exhaustion forced him to make an emergency landing in a plowed field and the plane flipped over. His insurance adjuster elected to classify the aircraft as totaled.

Then in June 2006, Hartvigsen bought another Pitts S-2B and resumed aerobatic training and contest flying. "Of course, with revised fuel management techniques after that experience," he said.

A member of the Atlanta chapter of the International Aerobatics Club (IAC), he said. "We put on a contest every year – actually this year we're doing two contests."

Hartvigsen emphasized that the IAC competitions are a lot different than air shows.

"What you're doing is a prescribed set of figures that must be done very precisely and they're judged by, typically, five scoring judges," he said. "They're watching from the ground while you do your sequence up in the air."

He can't use instruments, nor is he allowed to have gyro instrumentation in the airplane.

"It's all visual and that's the part of the challenge," he said.

Hartvigsen enjoys the social aspects of aerobatic flying. However, what keeps him coming back to compete is the challenge of taking it to the next level.

Positive and negative Gs are part of the sport and both man and machine are ready for those forces.

"You have to be conditioned for it [and] you've got to have an airplane that is designed to withstand that kind of G loading," he said.

"My airplane is equipped with inverted fuel and oil systems and has symmetrical airfoils on the wings and so it can fly upside down just as well as it flies right side up."

Competitive, aerobatic flying is divided into five contestant categories based on ability; primary, sportsman, intermediate, advanced and unlimited. Hartvigsen is already thinking ahead.

"I'm going to stay in sportsman this year, but I'm probably going to advance to intermediate next year," he said. "I may not go any higher than intermediate because that's pretty challenging, especially for a person of my age."

Hesitating only a few moments, he adds, "Intermediate may be as high as I'll go, but then, I never know."



AEDC's Tom Hartvigsen puts his aerobatic airplane, a Pitts S-2B, through its paces at a contest in Sebring, Fla. (Photo provided)



AEDC's Tom Hartvigsen maneuvers his aerobatic airplane, a Pitts S-2B, for a flight from Tullahoma Regional Airport. (Photo provided)

POW/MIA from page 1

The event is being supported by the American Society of Military Comptrollers (ASMC), the Company Grade Officers' Council (CGOC), the Junior Force Council (JFC), Top 4 and the Air Force Sergeants Association (AFSA).

For more information on the overall AEDC event, contact Senior Airman Tara Kindermann at 454-4364. Call Donna Spry at 454-7834 for information on run/walk times.

AEDC heritage flight



As a special tribute to the 60th anniversary of Arnold AFB, U.S. Air Force A-10 West Coast Demonstration Team commander Capt. Joe "Rifle" Shetterly and P-51D "Mustang" pilot Vlado Lench performed a Heritage Flight flyover of AEDC just prior to the Independence Day air show in Tullahoma July 1. The Heritage Flight pairs up active-duty Air Force fighter jets with vintage warbird aircraft as a moving aerial tribute to honor the sacrifices of the men and women of America's Air Force. The AEDC flyover logistics were paid for by the Momentum Foundation and the Tullahoma Kiwanis Club. The photo was taken by Antonio Gemma More. (Photo provided)

Obama from page 3

ness, is a way to honor those we lost – a way to reclaim that spirit of unity that followed 9/11," the president said.

On this 10th anniversary, he said, the nation faces great challenges.

"We're emerging from the worst economic crisis in our lifetimes," Obama said. "We're taking the fight to al-Qaida, ending the war in Iraq and starting to bring our troops home from Afghanistan. And we're working to rebuild the foundation of our national strength here at home."

None of the challenges will be easy, he said, and it can't be the work of government alone.

"As we saw after 9/11," Obama said, "the strength of America has always been the character and compassion of our people."

The president called on Americans to mark this solemn anniversary by sum-

moning the same spirit shown 10 years ago on Sept. 11.

"And let's show that the sense of common purpose that we need in America doesn't have to be a fleeting moment," Obama said. "It can be a lasting virtue – not just on one day, but every day."

Manchester Area Chamber members visit AEDC



Jason Austin, AEDC public affairs director, explains the Propulsion Wind Tunnel's Captive Trajectory System to a group of business leaders from the Manchester Area Chamber of Commerce during their base tour Aug. 11. The chamber members toured the base in lieu of their normal business meeting and shared a lunch with AEDC Commander Col. Michael Brewer at the ALC after their tour. (Photo by Rick Goodfriend)

McGregor still active after distinguished career

By Shawn Jacobs
Aerospace Testing Alliance

AEDC Fellow Dr. Wheeler “Mac” McGregor, a senior scientist at the Advanced Missile Signature Center (AMSC), is still going strong after a 60-year career filled with a litany of accomplishments and honors. He recently sat for an interview with High Mach about a few of the high points of his distinguished career and what’s new in his area of expertise.



Dr. Wheeler K. McGregor in his office in AEDC’s Advanced Missile Signature Center (AMSC), Aug. 29. (Photo by Philip Lorenz)



Dr. Wheeler McGregor’s first identification badge was issued when he went to work for ARO Inc.’s St. Louis location, July 11, 1951. (Photo provided)

High Mach: You officially retired from AEDC a number of years ago, but you’re at work here in the AMSC most weekdays. After all these years, what keeps you coming back to work every day?

Dr. McGregor: Right now it’s a sensor that’s flying on the MDA (Missile Defense Agency) satellite, NFIRE (Near Fields Infrared Experiment).

I got invited at the beginning to be on the science team for it and one thing developed after another, so I feel obligated to keep it running.

NFIRE was supposed to be up for one to two years; we’re working on the fifth year now.

I don’t know how much longer it’s going to last, but one of the things I do is run a monthly data collect that looks at on-board calibration plates with the three cameras. I look at the moon and I look at a star.

As far as I can tell, the instrument is still healthy. Plus, I write experiment plans for all kinds of things.

For example, recently we did a calibration of a strong or big Xenon searchlight for White Sands [Test Facility].

They wanted to measure the intensity as it comes up through the atmosphere, and so we measured it with the NFIRE satellite.

High Mach: So you are using the satellite in ways you hadn’t planned.

Dr. McGregor: Every day we get new requests. The latest one is from NOAA [National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration] who wants to look at city lights, and we happen to have the only capability up there for really resolving lights with a calibrated system.

High Mach: So there’s always a specific project you’re working on?

Dr. McGregor: In fact, I got invited to a meeting on the spectroscopy of tracer bullets. Dr. Bob Reed is taking care of that, but it sort of follows in a lot of my early- and mid-career [work].

High Mach: You have been hailed as the world’s expert in the study of rocket motor plume visibility. Do you still consider that your specialty and is that part of the NFIRE satellite work as well?

Dr. McGregor: The purpose of NFIRE was to measure plumes in space, so I’ve been involved pretty much in that. The last paper I gave was on the visible radiation from the Soyuz launch that we captured with the NFIRE satellite.

High Mach: I notice that you’ve also had an interest in nurturing and encouraging junior engineers and scientists over the years. Is that what’s necessary for America to maintain its air and space advantage?

Dr. McGregor: [It’s an] absolute necessity. We’ve not done enough here or anywhere else.

High Mach: Obviously, we need to begin sooner than that in encouraging young people to get involved in science and math fields as well.

Dr. McGregor: And, if at all possible, to go on and take graduate courses. One of the best opportunities anywhere is UTSI (University of Tennessee Space Institute). We ought to have more of our folks teaching down there.

High Mach: Do you still teach there?

Dr. McGregor: I’m still an adjunct professor. I haven’t taught anything in a while.

High Mach: What’s the newest thing that’s got you excited besides the NFIRE project?

Dr. McGregor: I mentioned this spectroscopy of tracer bullets because there are molecules that are formed there that have never really been studied.

High Mach: In your career, are you surprised by all of the advances that have been made in the area of testing or are you more impressed by what has stayed the same?

For example, so many of our test cells have updated capabilities, but by the same token many of the cells themselves are rather old.

Dr. McGregor: I don’t know that I’m impressed with one over the other.

They’re both necessary and the more you can learn about your test the more valuable it is. With especially the laser techniques that are available these days, that’s where the future lies in understanding gas flows, especially hypersonic gas flows.

High Mach: In these days of declining budgets, what do you think AEDC can do to remain viable?

Dr. McGregor: Just keep on keeping on. Take advantage of new [technology] that’s coming along and keep plugging with as much expertise as you can get.

High Mach: Are you optimistic about the future of Arnold?

Dr. McGregor: When the idea came of using private industry to do things like ferry people and goods to the International Space Station (ISS), I was a bit leery.

But I think this company SpaceX (Space Exploration Technologies Corp.) has taught me better than that.

I’ve stayed fairly close to what they’re doing and some of the new ideas in propulsion, I think, are really promising, so if they can master that task – and they can do it so much cheaper than the government can – then the government can put their money into research, which is what they should have been doing all along.

The space shuttle is a great thing. I had the pleasure of watching the first one take off from Edwards AFB on top of a 747 and come back in and land, so I was a real fan of the space shuttle.

However, safety and everything else made it so expensive that you just couldn’t fly it anymore.

High Mach: Have you been keeping up with the Hypersonic Technology Vehicle 2 (HTV-2) and the testing that’s been going on with it at AEDC’s Tunnel 9?

Dr. McGregor: I’ve not had any access to the Tunnel 9 [information], so I don’t really know what’s going on there.

I knew what they were trying to do and, in fact, we captured the launch of it [HTV-2] with the NFIRE satellite. I haven’t really been able to examine the data very closely yet.

It might be interesting for

DARPA (Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency) when we do get it sorted out.

High Mach: Do you think they’re headed in the right direction with that vehicle?

Dr. McGregor: Yes. I made a quote that got me in a little hot water for a while with my associates several years ago in the ‘90s.

I was at a meeting in France on advanced facilities and advanced measurement techniques and my comment after listening to all that was, “Gentlemen, teach your instruments to fly; it’s the only way you’re ever going to simulate true hypersonic flight.”

I still believe that and of course that’s what HTV is trying to do because you can’t get true simulation of Mach 20.

High Mach: You appear to have had a “dream” career.

Dr. McGregor: I guess it is. One thing that I look back on most favorably is my association with the Russians. From about the time of the fall of the [Iron] Curtain till the early 2000s, we always had contracts with the Russians in some form or fashion. Dr. Don Daniel said to me that I had to go to Russia and see what they were doing because he had discovered that they were doing things in plumes.

In ‘92 an associate of mine whom I met while I was taking my year off at the Air Force Rocket Lab at Edwards AFB, Dr. David Mann – who was working for the Army at the time but also was managing some space defense contracts – and I went over and met the Russians and saw from posters on the wall and so forth that they were doing the same kind of things that we were.

I guess partly out of curiosity and partly out of seeing if we could learn a few things, we started contracts with them on instrumentation and on analysis of plumes.

I got some support out of the Institute for Defense Analysis to fund some analytical work. We wound up getting an ultraviolet camera that we ran for a while. We made some arrangements and we did some joint studies on the Mir station.

I think that was a really good relationship. I learned a lot about the Russians and the ones we worked with were, I think, as ethical as any scientists I ever worked with.

Dr. McGregor, who went to work for AEDC in 1951, was named an AEDC Fellow in 1990.

He was specifically honored for his technical leadership and scientific contributions in advancing the state-of-the-art in the area of non-intrusive diagnostic techniques and instrumentation in 2005.

A distinguished UTSI alumnus, Dr. McGregor is credited with helping to develop a nationally-recognized infrared signature measurement capability at AEDC and using the rocket test facilities to provide



Kent Edwards, conference chair of the 2005 Missile Defense Sensors, Environments and Algorithms meeting and Missile Sensing Symposium (MSS) in Monterey, Calif., presented AEDC’s Dr. Wheeler McGregor with the MSS James Jamieson Memorial Award at the Chateau Julien Estate in Carmel Valley Calif., Oct. 27, 2005. The award is presented to an individual who has demonstrated outstanding achievements in advancing the state-of-the-art electro-optical and infrared (EO/IR) discrimination technology and EO/IR target and background measurement and analysis. (Photo provided.)

key ultraviolet signature data to the early Strategic Defense Initiative program, which subsequently evolved into the Ballistic Missile Defense Organization and ultimately became the Missile Defense Agency.

He also led the establishment of the Plume Data Center, currently known as the Advanced Missile Signature Center at AEDC, a national repository for plume signature data.

Dr. McGregor has also served

on numerous national advisory panels to guide the development of the Joint Army Navy NASA Air Force plume codes. That data is used to plan space and satellite missions and to help determine national missile defense policy and research.

More information about Dr. McGregor’s career can be found on AEDC’s 60th Anniversary Web page at www.arnold.af.mil/60th.asp.

Milestones



John Bowen
35 years

30 YEARS

Michael Askins, ATA
Robert Bear III, ATA
William Brown, ATA
Robert Cerny, AF
Donald Gardner, ATA
John Knight, ATA
Robert S. Mosley, ATA
Kathleen Shirilla, ATA
Stanley Stepanek, ATA
Benjamin Williams, ATA

25 YEARS

James Cortner, ATA
Olden Jackson, ATA
Terry Rayfield, ATA

20 YEARS

Robert Brewer, ATA
Michael Frederick, ATA

15 YEARS

James Lucas, ATA
Aaron McAdams, ATA



Laurence Campbell
30 years

10 YEARS

Billy Emberton, ATA
Annie Flanigan, ATA
Jennifer Lightfoot, ATA

5 YEARS

David Yoder, ATA

OUTBOUND MILITARY

Maj. Catercia Isaac, AF
Col. Michael Panarisi, AF

RETIREMENTS

Stuart Fulkerson, ATA

NEW HIRES

Summer Blasingame, ATA
Wayne Goff, AF
Colin Loudermilk, ATA
Michael Marana, ATA

GRADUATE/DEGREES

Katherine Anderson, B.A.S.
Rick Hutchings, M.S.
Ronnie Rogers, M.S.
Andrea Stephens, A.A.S.

New efforts enhance National Guard's response to Irene

By Army Staff Sgt. Jim Greenhill
National Guard Bureau

Approximately 7,675 National Guard Airmen and Soldiers from 18 states, the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico responded Aug. 28 to support Hurricane Irene relief efforts.

According to Guard officials, three capabilities are enhancing the National Guard's contribution to the joint state and federal support for civil authorities responding to Hurricane Irene.

The National Guard Bureau's 24/7 National Guard Coordination Center here boosted coordination and communication between the Army and Air National Guard and local, state and federal partners, Guard officials said. Also, the appointment of dual-status commanders to lead state National Guard and federal forces sped up response, and the deployment of strategically placed force packages ahead of the storm increased readiness.

The coordination center, dual-status commanders and pre-placed force packages are relatively new capabilities born from lessons learned from past natural and manmade disasters.

Guard members cleared debris and performed high-water search-and-rescue missions in Connecticut, officials said. They helped transportation officials control traffic in the District of Columbia, and handed out cots and supplies in Delaware. They flew helicopters from Alaska, Florida, Mississippi, New Mexico and Ohio to stand by in the affected region for search and rescue, damage assessment, transportation and other missions.

Guard members provided command-and-control support in Maine, filled sandbags and assessed damage in Massachusetts, performed search and rescue and provided security and transportation in North Carolina and provided shelter in New Jersey, officials said. Members also provided maritime transportation to the islands of Vieques and Culebra in Puerto Rico, supported communications in Rhode Island and provided engineers to local authorities in Virginia.

Throughout the Eastern Seaboard, Guard members helped neighbors hit by Irene. For example, 129 New York Guard members traveled in speed boats to help rescue 21 people stranded by floodwaters in

an upstate New York hotel Aug. 28.

About 101,000 Guard members were available in the affected region, Defense Department officials reported, and the National Guard Coordination Center worked with the states and other federal agencies to ensure the right numbers reached the right places at the right time.

"As Irene approached the United States, our NGCC was coordinating with the states, territories and the District of Columbia; the Federal Emergency Management Agency; and U.S. Northern Command to ensure the most effective National Guard support to civil authorities," said Gen. Craig R. McKinley, the chief of the National Guard Bureau. "(It enabled) us to bring the full benefit of our size, skills, training, experience, command and communications infrastructure, and legal flexibility to the whole-of-government response to the storm.

"Hurricane Irene demonstrated the vital importance of our new National Guard Coordination Center, which enables us to work seamlessly with our state and federal partners at the first warning of potential disaster," General

McKinley added.

Among assets coordinated and monitored by the center were force packages that allowed Guard officials to strategically position assets to respond to any additional needs states may have.

For example, in Eastover, S.C., Guard officials stood up an aerial force package of 17 aircraft – including UH-47 Chinooks, UH-60 Black Hawks, UH-72 Lakotas, OH-58 Kiowas and C-27 Spartans – with about 100 Guard members.

"Assembling and pre-staging ground and Air Force packages – drawn from Army and Air National Guard assets contributed by multiple states – in strategic locations out of harm's way but near potentially affected areas meant the National Guard stood ready to respond faster than ever to civil authorities' critical needs that might arise in the storm's aftermath," General McKinley said.

The appointment of four dual-status commanders in support of relief efforts marked the first time the dual-commander concept has been implemented in support of a natural disaster, officials said.

When agreed upon by



More than 7,000 National Guard Airmen and Soldiers from 18 states, the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico responded Aug. 28 to support Hurricane Irene relief efforts. (Photo by Maj. Rick Breitenfeldt)

the secretary of defense and the governor of an affected state, dual-status commanders can direct both federal active-duty forces and state National Guard forces in response to domestic incidents, Defense Department officials said. The concept is intended to foster greater cooperation among federal and state assets during a disaster.

The nation's governors led the creation of this new opportunity for collaboration, the officials said. Dual-status commanders ensure that state and federal military forces will work effectively together

when states request federal forces through the Federal Emergency Management Agency.

"This storm also demonstrated how dual-status combatant commanders who can direct both state National Guard and federal forces in response to domestic incidents increases collaboration, communication and coordination between federal and state assets, improves leadership, avoids duplication of effort and enhances the team response," General McKinley said.

In March, the Defense Department, the Department of Homeland Security and the bipartisan

10-member Council of Governors adopted the "Joint Action Plan for Unity of Effort," strengthening support to governors when they request military assistance for disaster response.

"Monitoring our response to Irene, I have been deeply proud of the sacrifices of our citizen Soldiers and Airmen, more than 7,000 of who once again set aside their civilian lives and took on their military roles at a moment's notice to help their neighbors and communities, with tens of thousands more at the ready if needed," General McKinley said.

Joint Base MDL survives Hurricane Irene

By Airman 1st Class Dennis L. Sloan
McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst PA

Hurricane Irene moved out of the area here Aug. 28 but not without leaving its mark.

Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst experienced damaging winds and excessive rain, which caused flooding, base officials said.

When the storm began to move out of the area, damage assessment teams spread out across the base Aug. 28.

"We currently have damage assessment teams driving the main and side roads of the base looking for flooding, downed trees or any obstructions," said Master Sgt. Ronald Boulanger, the 87th Civil Engineer Squadron NCO in charge of construction. "The clean up and restoration of JB MDL will start once we have identified all the issues and prioritize them."

The storm sent gusting winds of more than 70 mph through the base, uprooting full-grown trees and scattering small debris. Flooding of roads, lakes and rivers quickly became an issue when eight inches of rain fell on the base within a short period of time.

"The low-lying areas of base have seen significant amounts of flooding, especially near lakes and rivers," said Airman Tyler Woytus, a 15th Operations Weather Squadron weather specialist.

Hurricane Irene hit the joint base and New Jersey late Aug. 27, but base members had prepared for the storm several days prior. All units on Joint Base MDL worked together to ensure equipment and military assets were properly secured and aircraft were at their destination well before the hurricane arrived, base officials said.

"This has been some of the best teamwork I've ever seen," said Tech Sgt. Hazeley Glenn, of the 305th Aerial Port Squadron. "The

whole base is coming together to make this work."

The last hurricane to hit the East Coast with this intensity and force was Hurricane Carol in 1954.

"This doesn't happen everyday," said Tech. Sgt. John Nugent, the 87th CES Operations Support superintendent. "The East Coast is not known to have a hurricane hit it this hard or at all."

The final step to recover from this storm is restoring base accessibility and getting the mission moving again, base officials said.

"The cleanup is going very well," Sergeant Nugent said. "The crews have been very responsive and professional. We've been able to address everything very quickly."



Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst, N.J., experienced winds exceeding 70 mph and more than eight inches of rainfall as Hurricane Irene swept through the area Aug. 27, 2011. (Photo by Airman 1st Class Dennis Sloan)



Damage was minimal on base; however, flooding is still an issue in the low-lying areas on some roads and parking lots. The whole base worked together to secure all important equipment and material, while also setting up shelters and responding to emergency calls. (Photo by Airman 1st Class Dennis Sloan)

Seymour Johnson AFB begins post-Irene clean up



Staff Sgt. Adam Smith and Airman 1st Class Calvin Myers remove branches from atop the Berkeley Gate guard shack while Senior Airman Keny Brown looks on at Seymour Johnson Air Force Base, N.C., Aug. 28, 2011. The majority of base services were closed Aug. 27 in preparation for Hurricane Irene's projected destructive path up the Carolina coast. All three Airmen are from the 4th Civil Engineer Squadron Structures Shop. (Photo by 1st Lt. Matt Schroff)

2011 Golf League champs



ATA Boyz, from left to right, David Hurst, Lyle Sissom, Chris Gipson and Mickey Gipson, were the undefeated 2011 AEDC Golf League champions. A total of 12 four-person teams were in the league that lasted for 11 weeks. Teams played in a round robin format every Tuesday. The 2012 league will begin in mid-April. (Photo provided)

Arnold Golf Course 454-GOLF; 454-FOOD

Check us out on Facebook!
Arnold AFB Golf Course

HQ Air Force Services has launched its second annual **golfer survey** at 71 courses worldwide. This survey, designed by the National Golf Foundation, gives Arnold Golf Course golfers the chance to provide valuable feedback on the base course. The survey results are not only important to us here, but also at Air Force-level, as they develop programs and the direction of Air Force golf. For more information or to respond to the survey go to www.usafservices.com. This survey closes Sept. 15.

Arnold Lakeside Center 454-3350

Check us out on Facebook!
Arnold Lakeside Center and
Arnold AFB Service Information
Tickets and Tours

Books Are Fun is back for a **book fair** from 9:30 a.m. – 3 p.m. Sept. 7 in the A&E Building's new training rooms, A125 and A127. Discounted selections include paperbacks, best sellers, educational, reference, cookbooks, children's items, gift selections and more. Save up to 70 percent off retail prices.

ALC members only Texas Hold 'Em tournament continues. Play is in The Landing Sept. 10, 17, 24 and finals Oct. 1 beginning at 6 p.m. each week (final game 5 p.m.). Members 18 and older are eligible.

Players will be divided evenly among tables in random draw placement each week. The number of tables will be determined by the number of participants each week.

Tables will be responsible for the deal at each table. A dedicated dealer will be provided for the championship table. As players are eliminated, the number of remaining players will be redistributed throughout the night to make as many even-number tables of players per game until the final eight.

Placement points will be determined by finishing ranking each week once the player pool gets down to the final eight players of the night. Players eliminated before final eight will not receive points.

Point placements are: eighth place: 1 point; seventh place: 2 points; sixth place: 3 points; fifth place: 4 points; fourth place: 5 points; third place: 6 points; second place: 7 points; first place: 8 points.

A running seven-week tally of total weekly points will determine the ranking order to decide who plays in the final championship rounds. A player's best six of seven weeks will constitute the total number of points.

The Championship Table will be made up of the top 16 players plus ties from seven-week standings. Winning a single week does not guarantee a seat at the Championship Table. Seats are decided by point ranking only. Play will be single elimination round to determine a final 2011

ALC Texas Hold 'Em Champion.

Prizes will be given to top two winners each week. Grand prizes will be given to the top three finishers in the championship.

Arnold Lakeside Center has **movie night every Thursday** and beginning Sept. 1 will have a new movie start time of 6:30 p.m. Dinner will still be available from 5-8 p.m. from the Express or Pizza menus. The Thursday schedule for September is: **Sept. 8** – "Kung Fu Panda 2," rated PG starring voices of Jack Black, Angelina Jolie and Jackie Chan. Po joins forces with a group of new kung fu masters to take on an old enemy with a deadly new weapon. **Sept. 15** – "Bridesmaids," rated R starring Kristen Wiig, Maya Rudolph and Rose Byrne. Picked as her best friend's maid of honor, lovelorn and broke Annie looks to bluff her way through the expensive and bizarre rituals with an oddball group of bridesmaids. **Sept. 22** – "Super 8" rated PG-13 starring Elle Fanning, Amanda Michalka and Kyle Chandler. After witnessing a mysterious train crash, a group of friends in the summer of 1979 begin noticing strange happenings going around in their small town and begin to investigate into the creepy phenomenon. **Sept. 29** – "Zookeeper" rated PG starring Kevin James and Rosario Dawson. A group of zoo animals decide to break their code of silence in order to help their lovable zookeeper find love – without opting to leave his current job for something more illustrious.

A special **double feature Kids' Movie Night** has been set for **Sept. 17**. The first movie will begin at 5:30 p.m. and the second should start around 7:30 p.m. The first show will be "Judy Moody and the Not Bummer Summer," rated PG starring Jordana Beatty and Heather Graham.

Third-grader Judy Moody is planning the most super-duper, double-rare summer vacation ever with best friends Rocky and Amy.

Except that it turns out Rocky is going to circus camp to learn to tame lions and Amy is headed off to Borneo with her mom to save a lost tribe while Judy stays home with her pesky little brother Stink and second-best friend Frank Pearl.

Just when she thinks things are as rotten as they can be, her parents announce they are going to California and Judy will have to stay with her Aunt Opal, who she's never even met!

It looks like Judy's best summer ever just became her way worst summer ever. But feisty, fearless and ever-funny Judy Moody never gives up! With help from some unexpected sources, she's headed for a summer full of surprises.

The second show will be "Mr. Popper's Penguins," rated PG starring Jim Carrey, Carla Gugino and Angela Lansbury. Mr. Popper is a driven businessman who is clueless when it comes to the important things in life. Mr. Popper finally understands what he's been missing, thanks to a new inheritance: six penguins who turn his swanky New York apartment into a snowy winter wonderland and the rest of his

life upside-down.

Dinner is available from 5-9 p.m. from the regular, Express or pizza menus.

Children under age 15 must be accompanied by an adult or other responsible party. Feel free to bring comfy stuff to lay on for this fun and funny double feature.

For more information or to place advance dinner orders call 454-3350.

Arnold Lakeside Center has planned a **Day Trip to Chattanooga** to visit Lookout Mountain, Ruby Falls and the Incline Railway on Sept. 17. Meet at the ALC at 8:30 a.m. Cost is \$55 for adults and \$30 for ages 3-12.

Deadline to sign up is Sept. 15 and there must be at least five to take the trip. Maximum participation is 15.

Remember to bring money for lunch and souvenirs.

Call 454-3303 for more information or to sign up.

Last Friday Trivia Contest returns 6 p.m. Sept. 30. Teams can have up to four people.

No cell phones are permitted during the event. Anyone using a phone while a question is underway will be disqualified.

A tutorial will be given at 6 p.m. to all participants prior to the start of the game.

Six rounds of questions will be administered consisting of three questions in each round.

Each round is worth 10 points. The teams with the most points at the end will win prizes.

Ties will be broken by a trivia play-off. Dinner special is Lynchburg ribeye, \$15.95 member, \$16.95 non.

Wednesday Lunch is available for dine in or carry out from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Call ahead to 454-5555 to place orders. No delivery available.

For better service, call on any day and preorder. Regular menu items available during lunch include specialty burgers, chicken tenders, salads and stuffed breadsticks. Call for other weekly specials or check Sharepoint.

Friday night dining room specials available from 4-9 p.m. Sept. 2: 50-cent wings (member and non member). No First Friday Jam due to holiday weekend. **Sept. 9:** Prime rib for two, \$29.95 member, \$31.95 non. **Sept. 16:** Shrimp and catfish, \$11.95 members, \$12.95 non. **Sept. 23:** Italian cheese stuffed pork chops, \$13.95 member, \$14.95 non. **Sept. 30:** Lynchburg ribeye, \$15.95 member, \$16.95 non. Trivia Night 6 p.m. All specials and times are subject to change without notice. Please call ahead to ensure availability and openings.

Saturday availability and specials: Sept. 3: Express and Pizza to go orders only. **Sept. 10:** Prime rib for two, \$29.95 member, \$31.95 non. **Sept. 17:** Chicken fried chicken, \$10.95 member, \$11.95 non. **Sept. 24:** All you can eat spaghetti and meatballs, \$12.95 members, \$13.95 non. **Coming Oct. 1:** Weiner schnitzel, Knockwurst and Potato Pancakes, \$12.95 member, \$13.95 non.

The dining room is open on Saturdays from 5-9 p.m. unless otherwise specified. All specials and times are subject to change without notice. Please call ahead to ensure availability and openings.

September Drink Specials
The Emerald City – Irish whiskey, Midori melon and ginger ale
Chocolate Russian – chocolate vodka, Kahlua, cream

Family Member/Youth Programs (FamY)
454-3277

Check us out on Facebook!
Arnold AFB Youth Programs

Youth Movie Night will be Sept. 2 from 5-7 p.m. Ages 9 and up are invited to the Open Rec Center for a movie. There will be free popcorn, juice and water.

Lock-In, Max Out: Take the AF Challenge for Pre/Early Teens is coming Oct. 14-15. Ages 9-14 are invited to spend the night at the Youth Center and learn about healthy living.

We will increase awareness of living a healthy lifestyle and offer challenging activities.

We are partnering with the local health department and Fitness Center.

We will have a fitness instructor come in to teach the newest dance craze, Zumba. Then we will have a nutritionist from the Health Department show how to create a healthy meal. This will be a hands-on experience where youth will work with each other to create different aspects of the meal.

The nutritionist will stress the importance of a healthy diet and lifestyle.

A box breakfast will be provided the following morning.

Stop by or call to sign up for this awesome free night of meet and greet with a healthy spin.

Fitness Center 454-6440

Check us out on Facebook!
Arnold AFB Services Fitness Center

The Fitness Center will be **open 8 a.m. – 4 p.m. on Sept. 5** in observance of the Labor Day holiday.

Flag Football is set to begin Oct. 4 with games played on Tuesdays and Thursdays beginning at 6 p.m. on the AEDC softball field. Call the Fitness Center to sign up. The league is open to age 18 and older.

The Fitness Center welcomes guest speaker Karen Gann from the American Cancer Society Sept. 15 to talk about **cancer awareness, prevention and nutrition**. This will be held in the Arnold Room (A&E Room A123) beginning at 11 a.m. and should last about thirty minutes.

Fall Fun Run is scheduled for Sept. 21 on the Fitness Center trail. Complete two laps anytime during the day at your own pace to complete the 3.5 mile course. The first 25 to sign up will receive an event T-shirt.

Outdoor Rec (ODR) 454-6084

Check us out on Facebook!
Arnold AFB Services Outdoor Recreation

Paintball is back and is now offered every Saturday beginning tomorrow through June 2012.

We will break for July and August 2012 due to the heat. The time is 9:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.. Lunch is no longer provided.

Participants are given a lunch break and may either brown bag or go offsite.

A new fort has been added that will allow expansion in the games played. Play is open to

ages 10 and up and ages 10-18 must have a parent permission form; all participants must sign a hold harmless agreement.

Remember to wear protective clothing.

Outdoor Rec has enough equipment for 25 players, but you may bring your own equipment.

The field is capable of handling up to 50 players. There must be a minimum of four to hold an event.

Be sure to sign up in advance at 454-6084, especially if you need equipment.

A new rule this season is that all paintballs must be purchased from Outdoor Rec. Cost to play includes 500 balls but additional may be purchased at \$13 per bag of 500 or \$45 for a box of 2,000.

The cost is different now at \$35 per person which includes equipment and 500 balls.

If you use your own equipment cost is \$20 and includes 500 balls. CO2 refills are also available at \$5 per tank. Sign up no later than the Friday before the day you intend to play and then meet at the Paintball Field Saturday at 9:30 a.m.

Remember, if you need equipment you need to call early to ensure availability.

"Take a Trek Thru Outdoor Rec" finale event Sept. 10 at Crockett Cove from 4-6 p.m. with a hamburger and hot dog cookout plus volleyball, cornhole and horseshoes along with the grand prize drawings for \$500 Services Bucks and a second prize of a Global Positioning System (GPS).

Hands-On Boat Certification Class is now mandatory for renting boats from the marina. Watch the video during the week any time from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. After watching the video and taking the test sign up for the hands-on portion which is available Saturday and Sunday at 8:30 a.m., 9:30 a.m., 10:30 a.m., 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. This class costs \$20 and certification is valid for two years. Call to sign up or for more information.

An **Archery Basics Class** has been scheduled for Sept. 24 beginning at 9 a.m. for ages 10 and older for only \$3 each. There will be bows, arrows and targets on location but you may bring your own equipment if you have it.

Deadline to sign up for the event is Sept. 22. There must be a minimum of three to hold the class and maximum participation is 10. This class will teach how to properly hold a bow, correct shooting technique and some archery history. This is a great opportunity to start a new hobby.

Wingo Inn 454-3051

Check us out on Facebook!
Wingo Inn

Reservations for Wingo Inn can be made 120 days in advance. Room rates start at \$39 per night. Please call 454-3051 for reservations.

Services Hours of Operation:

Arnold Lakeside Center – Special function luncheons available. Call 454-3350 for arrangements. Catering/Management offices Tuesday-Friday 10 a.m. -3 p.m.; Lunch: limited menu Wednesdays, 11 a.m.-1 p.m., call 454-5555 to place orders; Dinner: Arnold Express Menu or Hap's Pizza only Thursday 5-8 p.m., dinner or Arnold Express Menus and Hap's Pizza Friday 4-9 p.m. and Saturday 5-9 p.m.; Main Bar Thursday 5-8 p.m., Friday 3:30-10 p.m. and Saturday 5-10 p.m.; Social Hour Friday 4-6 p.m., Movie Night Thursday 6:30 p.m.

Family Member/Youth Programs – Tuesday-Friday 10 a.m.-5 p.m., Saturday 12-5 p.m., First Friday Movie Night 5-7 p.m.

Outdoor Rec – Main Office, Check In, Marina and Auto Shop Tuesday-Sunday 8 a.m.-6 p.m.

Fitness Center – Monday-Friday 5 a.m.-9 p.m.; Saturday 8 a.m.-4 p.m.; **closed on Sundays**

Arnold Golf Course – Pro Shop & Driving Range 7 a.m.-dusk, Driving Range open 24 hours with prepurchased key card. Mulligan's Grill: 6:30 a.m. -2 p.m. Monday-Friday, 7 a.m.-2 p.m. Saturday and Sunday.

Recycling – Monday-Friday 7 a.m.-4 p.m.

Wingo Inn – Monday-Friday 7 a.m.-6 p.m., Saturday and Sunday 8 a.m.-4 p.m.

Barber Shop: by appointment – Monday-Friday 8 a.m.-4p.m.

Air Force celebrates JSF arrival, rolls out nation's airpower future

By Chrissy Cuttita
33rd Fighter Wing PA

EGLIN AFB, Fla. (AFNS) – Air Force officials said the unveiling of the F-35A Lightning II joint strike fighter was a “historic occasion” during a rollout ceremony here Aug. 26.

The F-35A, on display during the ceremony, was delivered here in July by Lt. Col. Eric Smith, the Air Force's first F-35 pilot.

“This is indeed a new era,” said Gen. Edward A. Rice Jr., the Air Education and Training Command commander and host of the milestone event.

The aircraft was developed in a span of only 15 years, one-eighth of the 118 total years powered flight has existed, he said. The F-35 brings advanced technological capabilities for the future and the nation's defense -- something the general explained was clearly unimaginable when Orville and Wilbur Wright performed their maiden flight Dec. 17, 1903, at Kitty Hawk, N.C.

“While this celebration is taking place in the Air Force hangar with the Air Force variant of the F-35, this is really a story about the fully integrated team of Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen, Marines, industry and community partners who have been working years to make this day possible,” said Col. Andrew Toth, the 33rd Fighter

Wing commander. “In fact, Marine Col. Art Tomassetti, my vice, (today's master of ceremonies), and test pilot, has been with this program for more than a decade. So, some of us have been waiting a long time to see this day.”

During the past two years, the integrated and multi-service team “Nomads” transformed their corner of Eglin AFB into the Department of Defense's F-35 Integrated Training Center. The center includes a university setting in which maintainers are expected to live, work and train alongside pilots in operating the fifth-generation stealth fighter.

More than 400 guests watched the JSF unveiling inside a newly constructed Air Force hangar, a place where a future generation of F-35 maintainers, pilots and leaders will learn their craft.

“Eventually about 2,200 maintainers and 100 pilots a year will pass through our schoolhouse doors,” Colonel Toth said. “In 2014, the program should mature enough to have the Air Force send students fresh from basic training.”

Delivery and success of the new program required the Air Force overcome a great number of challenges. It will continue to do so until the F-35 capabilities reach their full potential for the interest of national security, General Rice said.

“But with all the wonders of technology and the amazing physical performance of the F-35, let me say that none of this happens without magnificent people,” he said.

Wing leadership said they're already reaping the benefits of multi-service collaboration in co-located facilities.

“What this aircraft behind me is a visual representation of our exciting future,” Colonel Toth said. “The 33rd Pursuit Group of the past is nothing like the 33rd FW of today, except in the long-standing spirit of air power. With the F-35 program, we foresee air dominance for our services and partner nations for the next 30 to 50 years.”

Ceremony kicks off NCR leg of 9/11 Ruck March to Remember

By Staff Sgt. Richard A. Williams Jr.
Air Force Public Affairs Agency

ARLINGTON, Va. (AFNS) – Security forces Airmen from across the national capital region joined for a wreath laying ceremony Aug. 29 at the Pentagon.

The ceremony marked the beginning of their participation in the Security Forces 9/11 Ruck March to Remember.

“Our enemies will never win while America's Airmen stand ready to ‘defend the force,’ to project airpower, and to make any



Gen. Edward Rice, the Air Education and Training Command commander, speaks to the crowd of 33rd Fighter Wing members and state and local leaders Aug. 26, 2011, at Eglin AFB, Fla., during the F-35 Lightning II joint strike fighter rollout ceremony. (Photo by Samuel King Jr.)

sacrifice necessary to ensure victory,” said Brig. Gen. Jimmy McMillian, the Air Force's director of security forces. “I ask each of you to never let the memories and sacrifices of our fallen defenders – and other Americans – be forgotten.”

Staff Sgt. Russell Logan, a security forces Airman from the 164th Airlift Wing with the Tennessee Air National Guard, joined General McMillian in placing the ceremonial wreath. Logan is a wounded warrior recovering at the National Naval Medical Center in Bethesda, Md., from injuries sustained during an improvised explosive device attack in Afghanistan. He will join the ruck march.

“(Logan) is an inspiration to all, and an example of a defender who is willing to sacrifice whatever it takes to ensure mission success,” General McMillian said.

“It is a really big honor

for me to be here and participate,” Sergeant Logan said. “This event shows security forces Airmen are willing and ready to do whatever needs to be done, whether it is to fight, remembering or helping others.”

Security forces Airmen from the national capital region will complete a leg of the march that began in San Antonio on July 12. More than 20 security forces units will have participated when the march reaches Ground Zero on Sept. 11.

“Together we will help complete a 2,181-mile road march to commemorate the 10th anniversary of the terrorist attacks on Sept. 11, 2001, and to honor the memories of our fallen security forces comrades,” General McMillian said.

The march to Ground Zero is in remembrance of all security forces Airmen who have made ultimate sacrifice, event coordinators said.



Staff Sgt. Russell Logan, right, and Brig. Gen. Jimmy McMillian, center, salute during a wreath laying ceremony in Arlington, Va., Aug. 29, 2011. Security forces Airmen from across the national capital region participated in the ceremony, beginning their leg of the 9/11 Ruck March to Remember. (Photo by Staff Sgt. Tiffany Trojca)

Walter Reed closes, legacy lives on, commander says

By Terri Moon Cronk
American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON (AFNS) – An ambulance carrying the last inpatient from Walter Reed Army Medical Center here slowly made its way out of the Georgia Avenue gate Aug. 27, pausing briefly for the crowd of flag-waving troop supporters and shouts of “Thank you for your service! We love you!”

As the ambulance turned north on Georgia Avenue toward the National Naval Medical Center in Bethesda, Md., the once-bustling Walter Reed hospital fell silent.

This early morning move of inpatients, one to an ambulance, marked the end of an era for Walter Reed and its 102 years of Army medicine that has saved hundreds of thousands of military lives.

Walter Reed and the National Naval Medical Center are consolidating as one medical center as mandated by the 2005 Base Realignment and Closure Act. The Army and Navy complex on the grounds of Bethesda will be renamed the Walter Reed

National Military Medical Center.

“It’s been 102 years for Walter Reed, but the legacy lives on,” said Army Col. Norvell Coots, the Walter Reed commander. “The name lives on, and it’s a new beginning for our health care system.”

Earlier expectations were to move 150 patients this weekend, Coots said, but the number was reduced to 50, and gradually became 18 by Aug. 27 after eight were moved to Bethesda Aug. 26. Walter Reed’s staff also was able to discharge and relocate many other patients who wanted to be hospitalized closer to their homes.

With Hurricane Irene bearing down on the East Coast, the move was made a day earlier than planned.

When the Red Cross flag comes down from the front of the hospital later in the day, it will signal the final closing of the iconic medical center.

“The Red Cross flag is the symbol of health and healing, and symbolizes the end of physical patient care at Walter Reed,” Coots said.

Walter Reed has been the Army’s flagship of military medicine since 1909, and cared for service members during World War I and World War II, the Korean conflict, the Vietnam War, and the decade-long wars in Iraq and Afghanistan.

A small post, Walter Reed had no room to expand and accommodate more wounded warriors, Coots said in a press conference earlier this summer. The medical center straddles a couple of neighborhood blocks between Georgia Avenue and 16th Street.

The Walter Reed garrison and installation will remain open until Sept. 15, Coots said. When the U.S. flag comes down that day, he added, the installation and the garrison will close for good.

Sometime afterward, Walter Reed will become the property of the District of Columbia government, and the State Department is expected to take over the hospital building.

Looking forward to a new beginning, Coots said the day was emotional as he



Navy Rear Adm. Matthew L. Nathan (center), the commander of the National Naval Medical Center, greets one of the last 18 patients being transferred from Walter Reed Army Medical Center in Washington D.C. Aug. 27, 2011, to what will become the new Walter Reed National Military Medical Center in Bethesda, Md. (Photo by Donna Miles)

walked the wards early in the morning, stopping in to check on each of the remaining 18 patients.

“There’s still an energy

you can feel in those halls,” he said. “It’s an energy that’s left behind from the hundreds of thousands of patients we’ve treated in these

102 years, and the tens of thousands of staff members.

“We take Walter Reed with us,” Coots added. “And we leave a piece of it here.”

Spads celebrate 94 years of air dominance



The 94th Fighter Squadron celebrates its 94th anniversary by burning a piano in a traditional ceremony Aug. 19, at Langley AFB, Va. The ceremony was adopted from the Royal Air Force to celebrate the lives of fallen pilots who played piano during World War II.

Spad refers to the French biplane fighter aircraft used in World War I by the 94th FS. First Lt. Edward Rickenbacker, named America’s “Ace of Aces” during the war, was credited with 26 of the squadron’s 70 kills during World War I, flying the fighter. (Photo by Airman 1st Class Racheal Watson)

Former AFMC vice commander reflects on tenure, transition to new post

By **Monica D. Morales**
AFMC Public Affairs

WRIGHT-PATTERSON AFB, Ohio – Progress – that’s the legacy Air Force Materiel Command Vice Commander Lt. Gen. Janet Wolfenbarger hoped to leave behind as her tenure at Headquarters AFMC drew to a close last week.

“As I look back on this time frame, my hope is that I will be remembered not only for taking care of the command’s mission, but also for the progress made in process improvement activities that are truly making our Air Force better,” the general said during a recent interview.

Last week General Wolfenbarger departed from Headquarters AFMC to fill the post of the military deputy to the Assistant Secretary of the Air Force for Acquisition at the Pentagon in Washington, D.C.

On Aug. 2, 2011, the Senate confirmed the reassignment of General Wolfenbarger from AFMC vice commander to military deputy to the Assistant Secretary of the Air Force for Acquisition. Upon assuming her duties as AFMC vice commander in December 2009, the general became the Air Force’s highest ranking woman.

As vice commander, General Wolfenbarger holds responsibility for providing research and development, acquisition management, test and evaluation and logistics support for a variety of Air Force aircraft and weapon systems.

The general is quick to highlight that professionalism and dedication stand out foremost in her mind as the defining characteristics of AFMC’s civilian and military members.

“I have appreciated the opportunity to engage with our very capable and professional AFMC work force, and each day serves to remind me of the expertise and dedication our people bring to the AFMC mission,” she said.



Wolfenbarger

Before walking the halls of the headquarters building one last time before stepping into her new position, General Wolfenbarger shared a final message with the more than 80,000 personnel of AFMC.

“Recognize and take pride in the role you play in executing AFMC’s mission,” the general said. “It’s important to understand just how critical your role is to our Air Force and, ultimately, to our nation.”

During her 20-month assignment as vice commander, the command made significant strides toward achieving Integrated Lifecycle Management and refining the requirements generation process. Much of the progress within these domains, she said, reaches far beyond the scope of AFMC.

General Wolfenbarger said that chief among the command’s accomplishments during her time at AFMC is the conversion of the command structure from wings, groups and squadrons to directorates, divisions and branches.

“We went through one of the largest single, simultaneous reorganizations in our command’s history,” the general said.

The command-wide reorganization was driven in part by the Acquisition Improvement Plan, or AIP, goal calling for clear chains of command that allow for authority and accountability within organizations. The AIP is a significant effort launched

by Air Force Secretary Michael Donley and Chief of Staff Gen. Norton Schwartz in May 2009 to help the service recapture acquisition excellence.

The command restructure also created new slots for Program Executive Officers, or PEOs – the senior officials responsible for acquisition program execution. In turn, these changes established a more manageable span of control for PEOs and instituted stronger functional management throughout the command.

This transition resulted in advancements toward Integrated Lifecycle Management, which the general said is truly the “business that this command is all about.”

The second AIP goal executed by the command during General Wolfenbarger’s leader-

ship fell within the requirements generation process, specifically by documenting roles and responsibilities for the AFMC commander – an arena in which AFMC had not previously held a role.

“This allowed, within our Air Force, the AFMC four-star’s voice to be heard in the lifecycle management community, in a way that didn’t exist in the past,” the general said. “That really brings us to more feasible, more executable program requirements that serve our Air Force much better than in the past.”

Added focus and attention on air logistics centers’ performance also resulted in initiatives that honed in on part shortages and manpower.

“During my time at AFMC, we’ve witnessed the air logistics centers pull out the stops

to meet customer expectations and, in particular, to support our warfighters in the area of responsibility,” she said.

While these accomplishments serve as great strides for the command, General Wolfenbarger noted that her role as the AFMC vice commander also provided her with a broader, more “seasoned understanding” of the Air Force and Defense Department – an element she said is critical to her new job at the Pentagon.

“As a major command vice commander, I’ve had the opportunity to participate in a whole host of forums and undertakings directed by Air Force senior leadership. That has resulted, for me, in a much deeper understanding of Air Force-wide challenges and not just those unique to AFMC,” she said.