The Rolls-Royce Trent 1000- TEN (Thrust, Efficiency and New Technology) engine was recently tested for performance, operability and icing certification at the Aeropropulsion Systems Test Facility’s C-2 engine test cell at AEDC.

Prior to the end of the test program, Dr. Billie, Rolls-Royce engine owner, stated he was pleased with the effort put forth by both Rolls-Royce and AEDC personnel. “So far to date more has been achieved on this engine than any other previous AEDC engine,” he said. “The team is close to delivering all of the test objectives and the results thus far are in line with predictions and in some cases far better than expected.”

Capt. James Brooks, ATA rocket test manager, pictured, starts the final countdown for the 2,500th solid rocket motor test and last test he will be a part of at J-6 before retiring from AEDC.

(Michale Professor)

With the recent Minuteman III Intercontinental Ballistic Missile (ICBM) test at the J-6 Large Rocket Motor Test Facility, the 2,500th solid rocket motor has been tested at AEDC. Joe Migliaccio, ATA Lead Rocket Propulsion Test Operations, stated this achievement is worth noting. “It is exciting to reach new milestones for numbers of solid rocket motors tested at AEDC,” he said. “AEDC’s first altitude test of a solid rocket motor occurred in 1958. It happened at AEDC’s T-4 test cell and it is believed to be the first full-scale solid rocket motor tested at altitude conditions anywhere in the United States.”

Migliaccio added that through the years AEDC has played a major role in the development of the Minuteman and Peacekeeper solid rocket motor ICBMs for the U.S. Air Force. “AEDC was uniquely qualified for the task because it has test cells large enough to accommodate these full scale ICBM rocket motor stages and provide a stable altitude environment before, during and after the full rocket motor burn time,” he said. “This stable altitude environment is possible because AEDC rocket test cells are connected to the large Engine Test Facility exhaust plant compressors. Other test centers [elsewhere] do not have the large compressor,” said Randy Quinn, AEDC test manager, stated that Minuteman, a land-based missile comptant of America’s three-part nuclear defense, is one of the programs that AEDC has been involved in since its beginning. “We test one motor of each Minuteman second and third stage annually,” he said.

Quinn explained that as part of the test, the team checks performance requirements of the motor to evaluate the thrust, thrust termination, impulsive and other specifications. “We make sure that it’s performing withing the requirements,” he said. This database has been established at AEDC to compare motor test data to production test data to ensure requirements are correct. In addition to the Minuteman program, Star motor variant, Peacekeeper Stage 2 and New Technology) engine was recently tested for performance, operability and icing certification at the Aeropropulsion Systems Test Facility’s C-2 engine test cell at AEDC. Picture is Eric Brunet. ATA outside machining, inspecting the engine prior to the test. (Photo by Rick Goodfriend)

They are required for Federal Aviation Administration and European Aviation Safety Agency certifications. “These [icing] could occur during an aircraft descent for landing, while in a holding pattern, or while waiting for take-off on a cold, foggy day,” Schmidt said. During the test, an intensive schedule was implemented to ensure requirements were met. “The test team faced many obstacles to complete this test before a planned summer maintenance outage,” said Melissa Eise, ATA project manager for the Aeropropulsion Branch. “The team, both AEDC and Rolls-Royce, has triumphed and we are in line for the Aeropropulsion Branch certification.”

James Brooks, ATA rocket test manager, pictured, starts the final countdown for the 2,500th solid rocket motor test and last test he will be a part of at J-6 before retiring from AEDC.

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(Michale Professor)
By Col. Raymond Toth
AEDC Commander

"That's an event that could happen to anyone and at any time, even an overweight cautious safety guy.


tenacious stress guy.

For general information about High Mach, call (931) 455-4700 or visit www.armedforcesnews.com.

The complex’s mission: Its not just a place that houses and defends the AEDC, it’s a place that learns and teaches. It’s where a behaviors change and it’s where a mission is made.

The Tullahoma News.

By Jim Raabe
High Mach Staff:
Kathy Bragdon, Affairs Manager & Editor
Raquel Mach, Editor

By AEDC Safety, Health, and Environmental

We often think of stress as being an external force and that the stress comes from the outside world and not the inside of our minds, for example. However, some of the most common causes of stress in life come not from the outside, but from within. We may not be able to fix everything or change our external responsibilities, but by simply changing our internal actions, we can reduce internal stressors.

Internal stressors are those behaviors that create or amplify stress in our lives. Personality types, habits, self-esteem and attitude are all internal factors that contribute to stress in daily life. The list below identifies some common internal stressors:

- Preoccupation – We are often constantly preoccupied with too much work that can be dangerous. However, preoccupation isn’t just a mental toll on a person by concentrating stress, often to situations where it is too late to get the daily stress.
- Cynicism – A poor or generally negative attitude can generate a surprising amount of stress. With a negative worldview, we divorces or ignore good things or the good things and the bright side of life.
- Perfectionism – We are perfectionists. When we don’t get the perfect or perfect amount we stated was... give us a chance. For instance, I am not a perfectionist, but I am more of a perfectionist than a perfectionist. When I asked if he was good at this, I am too fatigued to realize how to... compound an already stressful situation. Self-criticism just makes the situation worse.
- Irritability – This stressor is two-fold. One, irritability affects the way we communicate and handle further stress. When we are in conflict, we also alter our behavior towards ourselves from others who could help us work through the stress we are feeling.
- Personality – Certain personality types inclined toward more or less stress. A “Type A” personality – an over-achiever, high-achiever, who is prone toward perfectionism is much subject to stress than a “Type B” (more lenient and less time concerned).
- Receiving feelings – Bottling up strong or difficult emotions can be a common defense mechanism, and even more importantly, the workplace. This it often times, can do more harm than good. Giving vent to emotions can help us work through the stressful situation.

So, what are internal stressors?
Harris takes command of Air Force Test Center

EDWARDS AIR FORCE BASE, Ca. – Maj. Gen. David A. Harris assumed command of the Air Force Test Center during a change of command ceremony June 18. The ceremony was attended by local dignitaries along with members of the AFIT workforce in Hangar 1600.

Harris comes to Edwards from within the AFTC enterprise where he was the 96th Test Wing commander at Eglin Air Force Base, Fla.

As AFTC commander, Harris directs a $31 billion enterprise of more than 18,000 military, civilian and contractor personnel across Edwards, Eglin and Arnold Air Force Base, Tenn. The AFTC provides developmental test and evaluation of experimental and research manned and unmanned air, space and cyber systems for the military, NASA, international partners and Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency.

AFTC also oversees the U.S. Air Force Test Pilot School.

Harris replaces Lt. Gen. Arnold Bunch Jr. who now serves as the military deputy, Office of the Assistant Secretary of the Air Force for Acquisition at the Pentagon.


Several projects funded through Innovation Grant Program

Innovation Grant Program

Technical poster sessions are held regularly to highlight the projects completed at AEDC with the help of funding from the Innovation Grant Program. Recently, the third annual session was held allowing personnel to explain their proposals and answer questions about their work. David Bailea, AEDC Fellow and AIAA senior engineer, pictured at right, describes his Innovation Grant project to colleagues. (Photo by Diederre Ortiz)

ROCKET from page 3

Stage 3, Small ICBM motors. Often motors, Payload Assist Modules (PAM) and many other solid rocket programs have been tested at AEDC.

Another notable accomplishment for this particular Minuteman test was that it was the first test program in which both operations contractor and government rocket test personnel officially participated.

ROLLS-ROYCE from page 3

produced the necessary data to ensure Rolls-Royce can certify the engine and provide their customer with essential information.”

Schmidt added, “It took a lot of personnel and many man hours to achieve the test, and everyone involved should be proud. As on past projects, Rolls-Royce and AEDC worked wonderfully together as a single team with a common goal. Testing an engine of this size required the combined support, coordination and accommodation of business areas wide and far.

The Boeing 787 Trent 1000 engine is part of a family of engines that will power all new variants of the Boeing 787 Dreamliner.

Dr. Brown and Maj. Gen. Harris visit AEDC

Dr. C. David Brown, the deputy assistant secretary of defense for Developmental Test and Evaluation and the director of the Test Resource Management Center, pictured at left, and Maj. Gen. David A. Harris, commander of the Air Force Test Center, far right, recently visited AEDC. While on base they took a tour of the Propulsion Wind Tunnel (PWT) facility. Pictured here in the PWT lobby, Brown speaks with Ed Nickles (second from right), senior manager of AEDC Aerodynamics Test Facility Planning, about the capabilities of the wind tunnels. (Photo by Rick Goodfriend)

Dr. C. David Brown, the deputy assistant secretary of defense for Developmental Test and Evaluation, and Maj. Gen. David A. Harris, commander of the Air Force Test Center, visit AEDC Monday and Tuesday.

Dr. Brown and Maj. Gen. Harris visited AEDC for two days in November 1985. “James Brooks has the importance of altitude testing and what that contributes in successful problem solving during the development of rocket motors. He has a corporate memory on the history of solid rocket testing that is truly remarkable. His sense of humor and candor is enjoyed by his coworkers and he will be missed,” Schmidt said.

The Facility Support Services (FSS) pre-award process is still with the Small Business Administration (SBA). The SBA has until June 29 to issue a ruling, however again there can always be extensions and appeals.

The Basic Communications and Information Technology Services (BCITS) contract was awarded to OBXtek, Inc. last week. Transition is expected to be completed by July 6, 2015 and performance is expected to begin Oct. 1.

We will continue to keep you informed of new developments as they arise.

Col. Tuth
By Air Force Surgeon General Public Affairs

WASHINGTON (AFNS) – For peak performance, Airmen should eat healthy and exercise regularly. But in the quest to gain an “edge,” many Airmen resort to dietary supplements.

Enter Operation Supplement Safety, or OPSS. This Defense Department educational campaign, accessible at www.hprc-online.org/opss, educates the warfighter and healthcare provider on responsible dietary supplement use.

While some supplements, such as multivitamins, are generally safe, other supplements can pose a hazard to health and jeopardize careers from adulterants that cause a positive urine drug screen.

“One third of Airmen report using legal body building supplements and one in six report weight loss supplements in the past year,” said Col. (Dr.) John Oh, the chief of health promotion for the Air Force Medical Support Agency. “Body building and weight loss supplements, as well as sexual enhancement and diabetes supplements, are high-risk categories that should raise red flags.”

Ephedra is a cautionary tale of a problematic dietary supplement. Heavily marketed as a supplement to help improve athletic performance and promote weight loss, serious health events, including deaths first reported in the military, led the Food and Drug Administration to ban ephedra in 2004.

The OPSS website contains videos, fact sheets, FAQs and briefings to help Airmen make informed, responsible decisions on supplement use, as well as an “Ask the Expert” feature in which Airmen can directly pose a question to a supplement expert.

“The OPSS website is a must-read source for Airmen, commanders, first sergeants, superintendents and their healthcare providers,” Oh said. “People think if a dietary supplement is sold on base, it must be safe, but that’s not necessarily true.”

Unlike prescription drugs, the FDA does not approve dietary supplements for safety and effectiveness prior to marketing.

“For prescription drugs, the manufacturer must show that the drug works and is safe before putting it on market,” Oh said. “But most supplements are marketed first, and the burden is on the FDA to prove they are unsafe.”

Since supplements can be adulterated with prescription and illegal drugs, Airmen may put their careers at risk with a positive drug screen. Service members who choose to use supplements are encouraged to stick with brands that have undergone third-party certification by independent companies such as USP, Informed Choice, NSF International and ConsumerLab.com. Third-party certification does not guarantee that the supplement is safe or effective, but it does validate manufacturing practices, purity and/or quality, so that what’s on the label is accurate.

Airmen are encouraged to be strong Wingmen for each other and help spread the word on supplement safety.

“The aim of Operation Supplement Safety is to not stamp out supplement use,” Oh said. “We want Airmen who use supplements to be informed consumers and choose wisely.”

For more information on dietary supplement safety, visit The Human Performance Resource Center website at www.hprc-online.org. To request OPSS education materials, military members can contact their local Air Force health promotion staff. Civilian employees can contact their local Civilian Health Promotion Services team or visit AFMCwellness.com.

(Air Force Materiel Command Wellness Support Center contributed to this article)
EDWARDS AIR FORCE BASE, Calif. – The Air Force Test Center added a page to its three-year history June 18 when Maj. Gen. David A. Harris took command of the Air Force’s Distributed Common Ground System (DCGS) test center.

"We must be prepared for the offset strategies that are required in finally difficult times where we can use our American ingenuity to advance much faster than our potential enemies," said Harris.

Harris’s priorities will build into a long legacy of test at Edwards AFB. According to Pawlikowski, there has not been a single aircraft in the Air Force inventory since WWII that has not come through the Air Force Test Center before becoming operational.

"If you look back over the history of the Air Force, from acquisition to test to development to life cycle. There’s a war and then there’s a refreshment where we find out how we’re going to make ourselves better - we are entering that refreshment period once again."

This happens in the areas of technological advances. Agility, he said, is being able to respond in a rapidly changing world. To accomplish this, the test center needs to be organized, trained and equipped for maximum efficiency while eliminating wasteful practices. To be ready means staying on the leading edge of technological advances.

The system for this test was the Distributed Common Ground System, which is the Air Force’s primary intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance (ISR) collection, processing, exploitation, analysis and dissemination (CPAD) system.

During the transition to open architectures, improving the current acquisition systems will help the Air Force to take full advantage of all opportunities that the open architecture provides, Gorguin-pour said.

Plugfest Plus allows the Air Force to make faster acquisitions while providing Airmen with the newest technologies from both traditional and non-traditional defense contractors, he added.

"The Department of Defense is focused on transitioning its systems to open architectures to the greatest extent possible, because doing so reduces costs, expands competition and enables faster adoption of cutting-edge technologies," Gorguin-pour said.

The system for this test was the Distributed Common Ground Station trainer, which is the Air Force’s primary intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance (ISR) collection, processing, exploitation, analysis and dissemination (CPAD) system.

The process, called Plugfest, is an interactive industry event where companies get to “plug in” to a given open system architecture and test their products for government representatives. Open system architectures are products where multiple vendors can provide their capabilities using common interfaces.

"This new acquisition process will shrink the acquisition timeline for open architecture systems from multiple years to a few weeks," said Cameron Gor- guin-pour, the Office of the Assistant Secretary of the Air Force (Acquisitions) director of transformation.

"The mission of the test center is a sacred trust. If we fail, we must face the widows, widowers and the children left fatherless or motherless because of the system’s fail. We are the safety net; we are the warrior’s best friend," said Harris. To keep the center guided, the new commander has set three priorities to be agile, be ready and be right. Agility, he said, is being able to respond in a rapidly changing world.
This day in espionage history

By Senior Airman Daniel Liddicoet | 2021 AEDC Wing Public Affairs

FORT MCCOY, Wis. (AFNS) – The hazardous nature of a career as an explosive ordnance disposal technician requires continuous training to maintain the mental acuity required to shoulder a daunting and hazardous mission.

During the Patriot Warrior exercise here, Reserve technicians from the 446th Civil Engineer Squadron EOD flight from McChord Field, Washington, recently undertook an exclusive brand of instruction to keep them on their toes in preparation for challenges they could face while serving downrange.

Patriot Warrior is the Air Force Reserve Command portion of an immense joint field exercise involving nearly 8,000 Airmen, Sailors, Soldiers, and multinational forces. Formerly known as Globemaster, the exercise still focuses primarily on aeromedical evacuation training and readiness, but has evolved to become multi-faceted.

Four of McChord’s EOD technicians traveled to Wisconsin in order to capitalize on the specialized training offered by Fort McCoy’s state-of-the-art facilities.

“I’ve never participated in a training exercise that goes through all the iterations of an actual deployment like we have here,” said Tech. Sgt. Michael Blanche, a 446th EOD technician. “We rarely have to simulate at all. All the distances are actual correct distances we would use in the real world. There’s nothing you could do at home station that would prepare them as well as this for a deployment.”

Blanche, also a designated observer, controller, and trainer for the exercise, was selected to help prepare numerous dismantled field scenarios for multiple teams of EOD technicians from across the command.

“We’re designing problems and implementing them based on scenarios we expect (often we’re) in a counter in places like Afghanistan,” he said. “It’s about taking the skills they learned in the classroom and finding a way for them to apply critical thinking and threat analysis. All of their knowledge serves as tools they can use out here.”

The tailored exercises at Patriot Warrior served to foster a mental state that can allow the participants to completely immerse themselves into the scenarios.

“We had an opportunity to exercise in small towns designed with desert-like appearances made to feel like the Middle East,” said Staff Sgt. Stewart Knight, a 446th EOD technician. “It really helps instill a deeper mindset. It fit us set aside trying to game the situation, and put more effort in.”

For the technicians, Patriot Warrior was less about learning, but more about discovering how to think.

“There is a certain methodology and understanding of how ordnance functions and how terrorists plan to kill us,” Knight said. “Once we get that methodology down, it helps us better attack the problem and make a holistic situation solve. There (is) hundreds of years’ worth of weaponry designed by hundreds of authors. Their functioning can be similar, but it all depends on how it was made. Once you understand the general methodology, you can learn how to approach an improvised (explosive) device and understand how its components function, and how they work together. That’s the kind of thinking that helps us accomplish our mission.”

The ability to work with service members outside their close-knit circle served to elevate their experience.

“We’ve gotten different skills and tips from around the Air Force working here,” Knight explained. “They might have a different type of robot, different tactics or experiences; they might have a way to deal with landmines that we hadn’t thought of before. You get used to their rhythm and pattern, and it adds more depth to your understanding of how to deal with these situations.”

By AEDC Industrial Security
July 11, 1997 – Robert Chan
Kim sentenced to nine years in prison
July 13, 1981 – Joseph George
Holmich arrested for sale of
U.S. cryptography to Soviet
Union
Joseph George Holmich:
◆ Former U.S. Army
warrior officer
◆ Exchanged sensitive
information related to the
KL-7 cryptographic system widely used by the U.S. military
◆ Motivated by severe
financial problems
◆ Oct. 16 198, sentenced
to life imprisonment
Type of employment when es-
pioage begun:
◆ 49 percent were
ununiformed military
◆ 18 percent were
government civilians
◆ 24 percent were
government contractors
◆ 9 percent had already left
government service or their job was unrelated to their spying

Patriot Warrior provides realism for Reserve EOD techs

Master Sgt. Shawn Lundgren, a 446th Civil Engineer Squadron explosive ordnance disposal technician from Joint Base Lewis-McChord, Wash., walks back to safety after dismantling a simulated improvised explosive device during the Patriot Warrior exercise at Fort McCoy, Wis., June 21. Patriot Warrior is a joint exercise designed to demonstrate contingency deployment training ranging from bare base building to full operational capabilities. More than 6,000 members from the U.S. service branches and their Reserve components, including Air Force, Army, and Navy participated alongside British and Canadian forces. (U.S. Air Force Reserve photo/Senior Airman Daniel Liddicoet)

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The Gen. Larry O. Spencer Innovation Award, named in Spencer’s honor, June 29 at the Pentagon. The idea was conceived by Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. Mark A. Welsh III to recognize Airmen who share their creative and efficient ways to save money and time (U.S. Air Force photo/Scott M. Ash)

By Airman 1st Class Zachary Cacicia

DOVER AIR FORCE BASE, Del. (AFNS) - Carrying out maintenance on Dover Air Force Base’s fleet of C-5M Super Galaxies and C-17A Globemaster IIIis can be challenging at times, but extreme heat and humidity can add additional challenges during the summer months.

Throughout the hottest months of the year, Dover AFB Airmen from the 436th and 512th Maintenance Groups regularly spend their work days enduring through 90-plus degree temperatures, the scorching sun and extreme humidity. “It’s exhausting at times, you have to stay hydrated,” said Airman 1st Class Kyle Ahearn, a 436th Aircraft Maintenance Group crew chief.

Ahearn and his fellow Airmen of the 436th AMXS work maintenance on Dover’s C-5s, spending most of their time out on the flightline where the aircraft are parked. They are responsible for the everyday maintenance and inspections of the aircraft frames and components. This occasionally requires them to crawl into tight confined spaces to perform this maintenance.

“Confined spaces in a C-5 get really hot,” Ahearn said. “Heat rises, so any time you are upstairs or in any enclosed space you have to stay hydrated, the heat can really get to you.”

But even when the heat index rises well above the 100-degree mark, most maintainers prefer it to the subzero temperatures they experience every winter. “The cold is the worst,” Taylor said. “When it’s cold your fingers get stiff, when it’s hot you can just sweat and get through it.”

Master Sgt. William Garcia, the 436th AMXS first sergeant, is consistently pleased with the hard-work that his Airmen perform, regardless of the working conditions. “They don’t complain, they don’t moan, they do what they got to do and they do a great job, day in and day out.”

Maintainers from the 456th and 512th Maintenance Groups take advantage of the shade provided by the tail section of a C-5M Super Galaxy on Dover’s flightline. “It’s hot,” said Senior Airman Shanique Taylor, a 436th AMXS crew chief. “It’s important to hydrate and get as much shade as possible; otherwise it’s like working in a microwave.”

“It’s important to hydrate and get all sweaty, it just makes me feel more accomplished.”

Airman 1st Class Zachary Cacicia

• July 6, 2015

Secretary of the Air Force Deborah Lee James and Air Force Vice Chief of Staff Gen. Larry O. Spencer pull the shroud during the ceremonial unveiling of the Gen. Larry O. Spencer Innovation Award, unveiled at the Pentagon during a ceremony in honor of Spencer during the ceremony in the Airman’s Hall at the Pentagon June 29.

The idea was conceived by Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. Mark A. Welsh III to recognize Airmen who share their creative and efficient ways to save money and time (U.S. Air Force photo/Scott M. Ash)

By Secretary of the Air Force Public Affairs

WASHINGTON (AFPS) - Secretary of the Air Force Deborah Lee James, along with Air Force Vice Chief of Staff Gen. Larry O. Spencer, unveiled the “Innovation Award” at the Pentagon June 29.

The award conceptualized by Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. Mark A. Welsh III, is intended to annually recognize Airmen who come up with innovative and efficient ways to save money and time.

“The award is new, but that’s not new in the focus on innovation and the passion that General Spencer has brought to us in many ways,” James said.

“General Spencer has put much of his personal time into innovation and efficiency.”

According to James, the programs championed by Spencer, the Every Dollar Counts campaign and the Airman Personnel innovation website, are working so well that the Air Force is saving more than $35 million annually.

“As I have traveled the Air Force, I see it working,” James said. “I see that Airmen are finding new innovative and cost-saving ways to get our mission done.”

Not only did Spencer champion the ideas of innovation and saving with the programs, he also spent time personally responding to emails and hosting video teleconferences with Airmen around the world.

“The real innovation is out in the field, and we need to cultivate these ideas and encourage those Airmen,” Spencer said. “There are great ideas out there and we owe it to our Airmen to listen to them.”

The Gen. Larry O. Spencer Innovation Award will be awarded for the first time July 23 at the Pentagon.
US airpower on display in Paris

By Tech. Sgt. Ryan Crane

Air Force Headquarters, Public Affairs

PARIS (AFNS) – Defense Department representatives and aircraft were on hand at the 51st International Paris Air Show, the largest aerospace event in the world, at Le Bourget Airport, France, June 15-21.

Secretary of the Air Force Deborah Lee James; Heidi Grant, the deputy secretary of Air Force international affairs; Dr. William LaPlante, assistant secretary of the Air Force for acquisition; and Gen. Frank Gorenc, the U.S. Air Forces in Europe and Air Forces Africa commander; attended the show to meet with foreign defense officials, air chiefs and industry CEOs.

The flying demonstrations at the air show are expected to draw a crowd of more than 1.3 million over the three days it’s open to the public. However, the main attraction for the DOD is the opportunity to build partnerships with their European allies and reaffirm their commitment to a secure and peaceful Europe.

James spoke with many of those partners during the U.S. pavilion opening ceremony.

“It takes all of us working in a very synchronized fashion to reach our goal,” James said. “We in the Air Force like to talk about global vigilance; global reach and global presence, but we can’t get any of that done without our partners. In fact I would submit that our joint success in the future will depend on those very partnerships.”

The air show provides a collaborative opportunity to share and strengthen the U.S. and European strategic partnership that has been forged during the last seven decades and is built on a foundation of shared values, experiences and vision.

“It’s important to show American equipment and American Airmen,” Gorenc said, “and it’s important that we describe how those Airmen and equipment operate together. We need to highlight our ability to operate in concert with our partners.”

While these meetings with foreign military of officials and industry executives are the main focus for the DOD representatives, the crowd pleasers are the aircraft the U.S. flew in to showcase.

Eleven aircraft make up the DOD corral of static displays which feature the A-10 Thunderbolt II, F-15E Strike Eagle, F-16C Fighting Falcon, CH-47 Chinook, RQ-7 Shadow Tactical UAS, UH-72 Lakota, UH-60 Black Hawk, AH-64 Apache, WC-130 Hercules and the P-8 Poseidon.

“Many of the aircraft are vital components supporting Operation Atlantic Resolve, an ongoing mission lead by U.S. European Command. OAR is the all-encompassing mission to demonstrate commitment to NATO allies and partners for peace in light of ongoing Russian intervention in Ukraine. Events like this highlight the importance of working together to take on future challenges.”

“Last year the biggest thing on the plate was how are we going to transition the Afghans?” Gorenc said in a recent interview. “This year, we deal with Russia, we’re dealing with (the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant), and we’re dealing with Ebola. So, there’s the fact that despite all of our efforts, we cannot predict the future. However, what we can predict is when there are challenges in the world, airpower will be part of that solution. Oftentimes, airpower is the first to respond.”

That responsive airpower is on display at Le Bourget.

Nearly 100 U.S. personnel, who are familiar with those aircraft, were on hand to meet guests, answer questions and give tours. They also had the chance to channel their inner celebrity and strike a pose for their fans.

“Every time we come to an air show the best part is just interacting with the crowds and people,” said Col. Dore Pollmiller, the DOD air boss. “To be able to share our story and what our airplanes do, that is always the best part.”

For most of the U.S. military here, it is the first time this year’s airshow at an airfield, and it's not a time they will soon forget.

“I like seeing people from other countries and all of our aircraft and the items that they have here,” said Chief Warrant Officer Garry Smith. “They are very friendly and it’s great for us to be able to see things in person that we could normally only see on TV. It has been a great experience here in Paris.”


Secretary of the Air Force Deborah Lee James speaks to U.S. senators and governors during the U.S. pavilion opening ceremony June 15 at the 51st International Paris Air Show at Le Bourget Airport, France. The air show provided a collaborative opportunity to share and strengthen the U.S. and European strategic partnership that has been forged during the last seven decades and is built on a foundation of shared values, experiences and visio (U.S. Air Force photo/Tech. Sgt. Ryan Crane)

Milestones

25 YEARS

David Ferrell, ATA
William Sudberry, ATA
Mitchell Turrient, ATA

20 YEARS

Brian Baggett, ATA
Jerry Bailey, ATA
Joan Smirnoff, ATA
Jason Daugherty, ATA

15 YEARS

Amber Brown, ATA
Deborah Myers, ATA

10 YEARS

Tom Buchman, ATA
Nikolas Glyas, ATA
James Handy, ATA
Michael Key, ATA
Kip Lottrell, ATA
Jack Murdock, Jr., ATA
Charles Powers, ATA
Erie Robinson, ATA
George Vandagriff, ATA

5 YEARS

Gary Hammock, AF
Kevin Holifield, AF
Benjamin Holton, AF
Andrew Hughes, AF
Adam Menef, AF
Nolan Murray, AF
Kerry O’Brien, AF
William Overzat, AF
Vanguard Punugan, AF
Kim Pfundler, AF
Paul Ritter, AF
Rebecca Rough, AF
LaRocie Salterman, AF
David Schwartz, AF
Ben Smith, AF
Ryan Tate, AF
Sarah Toll, AF
Albert Velanaph, AF

OUTBOUND MILITARY
Capt. Joshua Coughenour
Lt. Col. Hailey Cowan

PROMOTIONS
1st Lt. Joseph Achenbach to captain
2nd Lt. Zahi Abi Chaker to 1st Lt.
1st Lt. Harrison Payne to captain
1st Lt. Joshua Coughenour to captain
Tech. Sgt. James Key to master sergeant
1st Lt. batterman to master sergeant
July 6, 2015

By Staff Sgt. Alexandre Montes

AL UDEID AIR BASE, Qatar (AFNS) – Nearly 29 years ago, as a form of protest against cable companies charging fees to satellite dish owners, a man by the alias of Captain Midnight intruded into a live HBO telecast of ‘The Falcon and the Snowman’ utilizing equipment from where he worked. Using a form of satellite communications (SATCOM) jamming, Captain Midnight was able to insert his propaganda and briefly stop HBO programming.

Midnight’s actions highlighted a vulnerability to SATCOM communications, which the military rely upon heavily to meet global communications needs. This vulnerability generated the need to establish Defensive Space Control systems to monitor and protect SATCOM assets. One of the missions is at Al Udeid Air Base and goes by the name of Operation Silent Sentry (OSS).

OSS was part of a proof of concept system in 2005. Back then, several Airmen were deployed to Al Udeid AB for 120 days. The mission was to test the capabilities of a new defensive counter-space system in support of joint warfighters in the area of responsibility (AOR) and then leave once testing was complete. The capability was proven to be valuable in the protection of U.S. Central Command’s satellite networks, and 10 years later, OSS is still in business, and business is good.

“What we do is provide CENTCOM with defensive space control capabilities,” said Master Sgt. Brian Popham, the 379th Expeditionary Operations Support Squadron. “We monitor, detect, characterize and geographically locate sources of electromagnetic interference on high priority signals.”

OSS is able to find a signal that is causing interference with satellite communications, characterize the signal environment and locate its origin. That information is then forwarded to support command and control of air, naval and ground forces to complete a full spectrum of situation awareness. Two weapon systems, the Rapid Attack, Identification, Detection, and Reporting System Deployable Ground Segment and Bounty Hunter, which provide the only Defense Space Control mission throughout the entire area of responsibility.

The 379th Expeditionary Operations Support Squadron operates through an antenna ‘farm’ of two weapons systems named Rapid Attack Identification Detection Reporting System Deployable Ground Segment and Bounty Hunter, which provide the only Defense Space Control mission throughout the entire area of responsibility. (U.S. Air Force photo/Staff Sgt. Alexandre Montes)

Master Sgt. Brian Popham, assigned to the 379th Expeditionary Operations Support Squadron, monitors and adjusts signal strength from an antenna during routine maintenance checks May 27 at Al Udeid Air Base, Qatar. The Operation Silent Sentry team monitors high priority satellite communication signals, detects electromagnetic interference on those signals and geo locates the source of that interference along with other signals of interest. (U.S. Air Force photo/Staff Sgt. Alexandre Montes)
and Bounty Hunter provide the only Defensive Space Control mission in the AOR.

“Communication is key to our entire joint and coalition forces’ ability to effectively and efficiently conduct our missions each and every day,” said Master Sgt. Jason Childers. “Our dependencies on SATCOM technologies have grown tremendously over the years to meet our operational needs. While military users benefit from these newer technologies, they also need additional protection and situational awareness into the electromagnetic spectrum in order to ensure robust communications.”

With upgrades in 2013, the primary focus was to improve response time to mission partners. Since then, OSS operators have created more elaborate geolocation capabilities to troubleshoot counter satellite communications electromagnetic interference situations and threats. “It’s like solving a math problem, the more known variables you have, the easier and faster it is to solve the equation,” Childers said. “The recent upgrades just filled in some of those variables to allow for faster and more accurate geolocations.”

OSS also employs the total package; Airmen deploy from several different career fields within Air Force Space Command. Total force integration is not an uncommon phrase among these warriors. Airmen are deployed here from both the 16th and the 380th Space Control Squadrons located at Peterson Air Force Base, Colorado, as well as several other squadrons. With having knowledge from across the spectrum, they were able to help the program evolve and become a more technical and valuable asset to CENTCOM.

“With the majority of the reserve and active duty personnel that support this mission also work side by side at home station,” Childers said. This allows the benefit of already having the inter-workings of professional relationships in place and the team is ready to hit the ground running when they arrive to Al Udeid AB.”

Childers also said that the current OSS architecture will provide the foundation for future defensive space control systems. The lessons learned and tactics, techniques and procedures documented by current crews will continue to be used and refined to shape the future of the defensive space control mission area. After 10 years of Defensive Space Control operations here at Al Udeid, there are no immediate plans to replace the systems here. OSS will continue to defend our space-based communications through an open, decentralized, fast, performance-based environment and close with the adversary.