

Commander's Call Topics



Aug. 12, 2011

"My thoughts and prayers go out to the families and loved ones of the Americans who were lost ... in Afghanistan. Their deaths are a reminder of the extraordinary sacrifices made by the men and women of our military and their families, including all who have served in Afghanistan," said President Barack Obama. [Senior U.S. leaders extended condolences](#) Aug. 6 to the families of American and Afghan forces lost in an International Security Assistance Force helicopter crash in eastern Afghanistan Aug. 6.

► CURRENT ISSUES

[DOD releases names of Airmen killed in Afghanistan helicopter crash](#)

"This crash leaves us in AFSOC with heavy hearts. My deepest sympathies extend to the families of our fallen brethren and to their teammates. As we remember their sacrifice, we will press on and continue to provide unparalleled air support to our combatant commanders," Lt. Gen. Eric Fiel, the AFSOC commander, said about the service members killed Aug. 6, in Afghanistan.

[New airframe, squadron on Kandahar Airfield](#)

The 702nd Expeditionary Airlift Squadron is a tactical transport squadron comprising Army and Air Force Guard members flying C-27J Spartans to provide support to forward operating bases. Their first combat mission took place early Aug. 4.

► PERSONNEL ISSUES

[AF officials continue IT consolidation efforts in manpower, personnel, services community](#)

"We want to reduce the number of processes out there. If we can get one process or one business system that does the same thing for all four agencies then that's what we are trying to do," Darrell Adams, Air Force Personnel Operations Agency's IT consolidation program manager, said about Air Force officials efforts to research smart and innovative solutions since merging information technology activities from four Air Force-level field operating agencies into a centralized organization in April.

FAMILY, HEALTH AND SAFETY

[Retroactive coverage closing for TRICARE Young Adult program](#)

The opportunity to purchase retroactive TRICARE Young Adult coverage expires Sept. 30. Retroactive TYA provides coverage for young adults back to Jan. 1, or the day they became eligible if that was after Jan 1. Complete information and application forms are available at www.tricare.mil/tya.

TECHNOLOGY

[AFRI to lead cyber symposium in October](#)

The Air Force Research Institute here is scheduled to host a cyber symposium Oct. 26-27. The event, titled "Cyber Power: The Quest for a Common Ground," is designed to improve the lack of accepted standards for definitions, data structures, threat assessments and policies both within and across communities that employ cyber power. For more information or to register for the symposium, visit <http://afri.au.af.mil/cyber/> or follow @AFRI09 on Twitter.

RESOURCES

AF.mil

<http://www.af.mil>

Airman magazine

<http://www.airmanonline.af.mil/>

Air Force Community

<http://www.afcommunity.af.mil/>

Air Force Outreach

<http://www.afoutreach.af.mil/>

Military OneSource

<http://www.militaryonesource.com/>

Military HOMEFRONT

<http://www.militaryhomefront.dod.mil/>

Air Force Personnel Center

<https://gum.afpc.randolph.af.mil/>

<http://www.afpc.randolph.af.mil/>

Air Reserve Personnel Center

<http://www.arpc.afrc.af.mil/>

Department of Defense

<http://www.defense.gov>

Department of Defense News

<http://www.defenselink.mil>

Department of Veterans Affairs

<http://www.va.gov>

TRICARE

<http://www.tricare.mil>

U.S. Government Website

<http://www.firstgov.gov/>

Employment Opportunities

www.usajobs.com

www.nafjobs.org

AIR FORCE HERITAGE TO HORIZONS

This Week in Air Force History

Aug. 7, 1990 - Operation Desert Shield begins in response to Iraq's Aug. 2 invasion of Kuwait. The operation's immediate objective is to protect Saudi Arabia from Iraqi aggression and build up allied military strength.

Aug. 9, 1944 - While leading 33 B-26 Marauders from the 394th Bomb Group against a railroad bridge on the Seine River in France, Capt. Darrell R. Lindsey's right engine received a direct hit and caught on fire. Even though his fuel tanks could explode at any moment Captain Lindsey decided to lead the bomb run to excellent results.

After delivering the bombs, he ordered the crew to bail out. Before he jumped, the bombardier offered to lower the aircraft's wheels so the pilot could escape, but he refused. The fuel tanks exploded before Captain Lindsey could leave the controls and the plane plummeted to the ground. For his courage he was given the Medal of Honor posthumously

Aug. 9, 1945 - The second atomic bomb dropped on Nagasaki, Japan, by B-29 "Bockscar."

Aug. 13, 2001 - During a 17-hour flight, NASA's experimental solar-powered, remotely piloted Helios aircraft reached 96,000 feet in altitude, a record for an unmanned aerial vehicle.

For more information on Air Force heritage, visit <http://www.airforcehistory.af.mil>.

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