

# Commander's Call Topics



Sept. 30, 2011

*"A big part of being effective wingmen is looking out for each other. It's recognizing if you or someone around you is having problems. It's getting help early, before a crisis develops. Asking for help or getting help for your wingman -- these are signs of strength."* -- Chief of Staff of the Air Force General Norman Schwartz speaking on the Wingman culture and resilience. General Schwartz and Chief Master Sergeant of the Air Force James A. Roy have released [public service announcements](#) to reinforce the importance of resiliency and encourage all Airmen to look out for one another.

## ► CURRENT ISSUES

### [T-6 advisory mission ceases, Iraqi pilots teach their own](#)

"Iraqi air power starts here," are the words written above the doorway of the Iraqi air force's Squadron 203, a T-6A Texas II flight training squadron at Tikrit Air Base, Iraq.

### [Wyatt: Air Guard is affordable, operational, accessible](#)

The Air National Guard is the affordable, operational, fully accessible force the Air Force needs during uncertain economic times, the director of the Air National Guard Lt. Gen. Harry Wyatt said

### [Bird migration season increases bird strike risks](#)

As summer fades into fall, birds begin to migrate south to their wintering grounds. That migration means one thing to pilots and airfield managers: a dramatic increase in the risk of bird strikes.

## ► PERSONNEL ISSUES

### [NAFjobs.org eases hiring, application process](#)

Air Force Services officials continue refining [NAFjobs.org](#) to make it easier for job seekers to apply and hiring managers to make their selections for nonappropriated fund vacancies Air Force wide.

### [Nominations open for civilian humanitarian award](#)

Air Force officials are seeking nominations for the 2011 Zachary and Elizabeth Fisher Distinguished Civilian Humanitarian Award.

## ► FAMILY, HEALTH AND SAFETY

### [Honoring Gold Star mothers, families](#)

Gold Star mothers and families exemplify the selflessness and patriotism that's inherent in our nation's military, President Barack Obama said.

### [HC-130J arrival brings promise of improved personnel recovery](#)

Air Combat Command received its first HC-130J Combat King II Sept. 24. The delivery of the new C-130 was significant for the personnel recovery mission, as the predecessor HC-130P/N King begins to be replaced with the newer HC-130Js.

## ► TECHNOLOGY

### [Sergeant creates formula, increases dust storm prediction accuracy](#)

The saying "leave it better than when you found it" is constantly used in the military with all the moving and relocating that is done. Staff Sgt. Thomas Jenkins, the 47th Operations Support Squadron Weather Flight NCO in charge of weather systems, did just that after a recent deployment to Iraq.

## ► 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](http://www.usajobs.com)

[www.nafjobs.org](http://www.nafjobs.org)

## ► THIS WEEK IN AIR FORCE HISTORY

**September 25, 1918** - Lt. Edward V. Rickenbacker attacked seven German aircraft near Billy, France, while on a voluntary patrol. Despite the odds, he dived on them, shot one of the Fokkers out of control, then attacked one of the Halkberstadts and shot it down. For this action, he received the Medal of Honor.

**September 26, 1971** - Air Weather Service WC-130s dropped silver iodide into Hurricane Ginger to decrease the storm's intensity. It was the service's first hurricane seeding attempt.

**September 27, 1993** - Gen. James H. Doolittle, who led the first air raid on Tokyo and commanded the Eighth Air Force during World War II, dies at the age of 96.

**September 28, 1912** - Cpl. Frank S. Scott became the first enlisted fatality in Signal Corps Aviation.

**September 29, 1964** - The first of 36 Minuteman II launches occurred at Cape Kennedy, Fla. In this flight, the missile successfully delivered its payload nearly 5,000 miles downrange on target.

**September 30, 1949** - The Berlin airlift, gradually reduced since May 12, officially ended. Allied aircraft carried 2,343,301.5 tons of supplies on 277,264 flights. U.S. planes carried 1,783,826 tons.

**October 1, 1969** - The C-5A Galaxy, world's largest aircraft at the time, took off from Edwards AFB, Calif., with a 410,000-pound payload, the heaviest ever carried by any aircraft. This load was also 21,000 pounds heavier than the C-5A's designed lift capability, and 28,100 pounds heavier than the record it set on June 15.

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

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