

# Commander's Call Topics



May 6, 2011

*"Tonight we are once again reminded that America can do whatever we set our mind to. That is the story of our history, whether it's the pursuit of prosperity for our people, or the struggle for equality for all our citizens, our commitment to stand up for our values abroad, and our sacrifices to make the world a safer place."*

– President Barack Obama in [announcing](#) the death of Osama bin Laden in a U.S. military operation in Pakistan

## FROM AIR FORCE SENIOR LEADERS

### [Senior Air Force leaders, scholars discuss national security challenges](#)

Secretary of the Air Force Michael Donley and several other senior Air Force leaders participated in the third annual National Security Scholars Conference at the University of Southern California. The conference provided an opportunity for foreign policy and international security experts from 14 different West Coast universities and think tanks to discuss the Air Force's strategic direction and its contribution to national defense.

### [Top enlisted leaders focus on families](#)

Building resilience in families and ensuring access to effective support programs are just a few of the steps the services are taking to ensure a high quality of life for troops and their families. At the 2011 Family Resilience Conference in Chicago, Chief Master Sgt. of the Air Force James A. Roy and the other services' senior enlisted leaders stressed the importance of leadership in building resilience in service members and their families.

## CURRENT ISSUES

### [Air Force officials announce criteria for basing of TACP/ALO training](#)

The current Tactical Air Control Party/Air Liaison Officer schoolhouse at Hurlburt Field, Fla., lacks adequate facilities to produce the required number of TACPs and ALOs due to an increased demand to support Army units. Basing criteria includes mission and training requirements; facilities and infrastructure; support capacity; and costs. The release of the candidate bases for the TACP/ALO schoolhouse is expected in summer 2011.

### [Officials announce Eglin as MQ-1 squadron candidate base](#)

The Eglin Air Force Base complex in Florida is a candidate for an Air Force Reserve Command MQ-1 Remote Split-Operations squadron consisting of 140 personnel and associated equipment. There are no remotely-piloted aircraft associated with this action, only ground control systems. Based on the results of these efforts, officials expect to announce the preferred alternative in summer 2011.

### [Air Force announces fighter training mission preferred basing decision](#)

Randolph Air Force Base, Texas, is the preferred location for consolidation of the Introduction Fighter Fundamentals training units. As a result of the decrease in IFF graduate requirements, Air Force officials are consolidating IFF training from the current five locations down to three. The move is projected to save the Air Force approximately \$55 million over the next eight years.

## PERSONNEL ISSUES

### [Air Force further reduces officer RIF requirements](#)

RIF-eligible officers from previously announced competitive categories for chaplains, medical service corps and 1999 and 2000 judge advocate general year groups will not meet the September 2011 reduction-in-force board. The RIF board will now only consider: Captains: line of the Air Force, 2000 and 2003 through 2005 only. Majors: line of the Air Force, 2000; judge advocate general, 2001 through 2003; and biomedical service corps, 2000 and 2001. For detailed criteria, visit the [Air Force personnel services](#) website.

### **[Some officer development applications due by May 31](#)**

Officers considering 2012 advanced academic degree and experience broadening programs should get their applications started, since some applications are due as early as May 31. The 2012 AAD/SPEED pamphlet contains information on available programs and submission instructions. It is available on the [Air Force personnel services](#) website.

## **FAMILY, HEALTH AND SAFETY**

### **[Mrs. Mullen spotlights family issues in new blog](#)**

Through her new "[Family Forum](#)" blog, Deborah Mullen, the wife of Adm. Mike Mullen, Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, said she plans to write on a wide range of family-related topics, including resilience, veteran and spouse employment and education, and psychological health and well-being. She also will pass on the latest information regarding support programs and resources.

### **[Using tobacco does not reduce stress, researchers report](#)**

Many service men and women report that stress is a major reason they smoke or chew tobacco, since military life produces unique pressures and challenges. But a recent article published on the Department of Defense's tobacco cessation website, <http://www.ucanquit2.org>, explains how tobacco actually increases stress and why stress levels go down after people kick the nicotine habit.

## **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-crm.csd.disa.mil/app/home>

<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>

### ***TRICARE***

<http://www.tricare.mil>

### ***U.S. Government Web site***

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

## ***Employment Opportunities***

[www.usajobs.com](http://www.usajobs.com)

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

## **AIR FORCE HERITAGE TO HORIZONS**

### **This Week in Air Force History**

**May 6, 1994** – First Lt. Leslie DeAnn Crosby graduated from the Air National Guard's F-16 Fighting Falcon training course in Tucson, Ariz., and became the first U.S. Air Force Reserve woman fighter pilot.

**May 7- 8, 1992** – The Command Band of the Air Force Reserve marched in a parade in Moscow, becoming the first U.S. military band to visit the Russian capital.

**May 9, 1932** – First blind solo flight was made relying solely on instruments.

**May 10, 1972** – Operation Linebacker began during the Vietnam War.

**May 12, 1968** – Lt. Col. Joe M. Jackson landed his C-123 Provider on a special forces airstrip that was being overrun by hostile forces. Despite intense enemy fire, Colonel Jackson rescued a three-man combat control team, earning the Medal of Honor.

**May 12, 1980** – The KC-10 Extender made its first flight.

**May 13, 1911** – Lieutenants H.H. Arnold and T.D. Milling became the first Wright School Army pilots.

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

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