

# Commander's Call Topics



**May 3, 2012**

"We're not going to do it irresponsibly. We're going to make sure that the gains, the [hard-fought gains](#) that have been made, are preserved." -- President Barack Obama speaking about the U.S.-Afghanistan strategic partnership agreement, which signals the transition to turning over Afghanistan's security lead to that nation's own forces.

## ► CURRENT ISSUES

### [Air Force Specialty Code changes take effect in May](#)

Various officer and enlisted Air Force Specialty Code changes will take effect in May, Air Force Personnel Center officials said.

### [2012 Air Force Climate Survey coming soon](#)

Air Force active duty, Reserve, Guard, appropriated fund and non-appropriated fund civilians have an opportunity to voice their concerns to leadership during the 2012 Air Force Climate Survey, which kicks off May 14 and runs through June 22.

### [2012 Warrior Games kick off, first lady speaks](#)

Hundreds of wounded warriors, family members and supporters gathered here for the opening ceremonies of the 2012 Warrior Games on April 30.

### [Air Force Marathon officials seek 2,000 volunteers](#)

Air Force Marathon officials are looking for more than 2,000 volunteers to help host the 16th annual event Sept. 15, and volunteer registration is now officially open.

## ► PERSONNEL ISSUES

### [Programs exist to minimize RIF impact on employees](#)

As demonstrated by the announcement of a third round of Voluntary Separation Incentive Pay and Voluntary Early Retirement Authority beginning 1 May, the Air Force is committed to maximizing voluntary separation measures to the greatest extent possible.

### [Air Force officials to launch myPers](#)

Air Force officials are launching a new name for online personnel services and human resources knowledge: myPers.

## ► FAMILY, HEALTH AND SAFETY

### [Airmen who exceed deployed time get added time off](#)

Airmen who serve in excess of the Secretary of Defense's established rotation goals are now eligible for additional time off, as written in the newly updated Post Deployment or Mobilization Respite Absence policy, officials said here April 25.

## ► TECHNOLOGY

### [Mobile app connects Airmen to their base](#)

It's called "My Military Communities," or MyMC2, and is the first mobile application in the Air Force that will put a list of every event at your base in the palm of your hand. The app is a free download and is now available through both the Android Market and Apple's App Store.

## ► 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>

<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)

### **Air Force Association Scholarships**

<http://www.afa.org/aef/aid/scholars.asp>

## ► National Military Spouse Appreciation Day

Tomorrow, May 4, 2012, is National Military Spouse Appreciation Day. Officially recognized by President Ronald Reagan in 1984, this day officially recognizes that military spouses are key to the defense of our country. An act by the secretary of defense standardized the date, making it the Friday before Mother's Day.

For the Air Force spouse, [Air Force Community](#) is a Website especially designed to help with the unique struggles that accompany being the persons behind our warriors. For example,

- The [Personal and Work life](#) link has information ranging from TRICARE issues, to maintaining a healthy relationship.
- Employers are often hesitant to hire those they know will be leaving in a few years. Tips on overcoming that challenge can be found [here](#).
- The [Finance](#) link contains several educational links, as well as a link to the [Air Force Aid Society](#), a charity that provides all manner of emergency aid to members of the military and their spouses through its offices located throughout the country. Education grants, community programs and emergency assistance are among their Air Force support initiatives.
- The [Readiness](#) link contains a wealth of information regarding preparation for, and dealing with, reintegration after deployments.
- Every three or four years, military spouses will want to check the [Relocation](#) link for moving tips ranging from what to do with pets to where to find information on your next home.
- The Air Force continues to care for its family after service, and information in the [Transition](#) link can guide family members through the transition to civilian life and give them information on how to take advantage of the lifetime benefits of service.

[Military One Source](#) has a broad range of links to help military spouses as well. Here, spouses can find information ranging from how to get the most from the [recreation](#) around to [on-line](#), [telephone](#), and [face-to-face counseling](#), to [tax tips](#).

Additionally, the [Consumer Financial Protection Bureau](#), the newly formed federal department that serves as both watchdog and activist for citizen's financial issues, has an office dedicated specifically to meet the needs of the service member and the military spouse. Headed by [Holly Petraeus](#), it can be found under the "Get Assistance" tab, and concentrates on finding solutions for the unique financial issues affecting military spouses.

For a list of what's going in your local area to honor military spouses, [Air Force Community](#) has links the [Airman and Family Readiness Center](#) for every major Air Force installation in the world.

## ► THIS WEEK IN AIR FORCE HISTORY

**May 3, 1952** - F-86 Sabre pilots destroyed five MiG-15s. Major Donald E. Adams, from the 16<sup>th</sup> Fighter-Interceptor Squadron, destroyed two and Capt Robert T. Latshaw, Jr., from the 335<sup>th</sup> Fighter-Interceptor Squadron, downed another to become aces. This gave the Air Force 14 aces, to date, in the Korean War.

**May 4, 1989** - Air Force Major Mark Lee, on the Space Shuttle Atlantis, released the Magellan probe that would map Venus with synthetic aperture radar.

**May 5, 2003** - A Global Hawk landed at Edwards AFB, Calif., after flying 19 sorties in 446.6 hours over Iraq to collect some 3,700 surveillance images during Operation Enduring Freedom. While only flying 5 percent of the surveillance sorties in the theater, the Global Hawk gathered more than 55 percent of the data on time-sensitive targets. Subsequently, the Air Staff credited the Global Hawk with destroying scores of Iraqi tanks and advancing the defeat of the Republican Guard by several days.

**May 6, 1959** - Launched from Cape Canaveral Air Force Station, Fla., the 16th Jupiter missile struck a target area 1,500 miles down-range near Antigua Island. Afterward, the Air Force declared the missile operational.

**May 7, 1994** - Through May 9, six Air Force aircraft moved 623 people, including 448 Americans, from Yemen to Saudi Arabia after civil war broke out.

**May 8, 2001** – Secretary of Defense Donald H. Rumsfeld made the Air Force the executive agent for the Pentagon's space activities.

**May 9, 1944** - Eighth Air Force B-17 and B-24 pilots bombed French airfields to begin an offensive a month before the WW II Normandy invasion that would prevent the German Air Force from recovering before D-Day.

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

*The Defense Media Activity produces Commander's Call Topics weekly. For questions or comments about this or any other DMA product, send e-mail to [afproducts@dma.mil](mailto:afproducts@dma.mil). To subscribe to Air Force news and information products online, go to [www.af.mil/information/subscribe](http://www.af.mil/information/subscribe).*