

Commander's Call Topics



April 1, 2011

"Every Airman has the moral obligation and professional duty to intervene appropriately and prevent an assault, even when it means taking difficult or unpopular actions. The Air Force Bystander Intervention training provides you tools and skills to meet those responsibilities--to intervene in situations where fellow wingmen seem vulnerable and to encourage victims to seek help."

– Secretary of the Air Force Michael Donley, Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. Norton Schwartz and Chief Master Sgt. of the Air Force James Roy from their [Letter to Airmen](#) on sexual assault prevention, response

FROM AIR FORCE SENIOR LEADERS

[Air Force chief of staff joins CJCS, service leaders to honor Medal of Honor heroes](#)

Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. Norton Schwartz joined service leaders for a Pentagon ceremony marking the 150th anniversary of the [Medal of Honor](#). *"During World Wars I and II, American Airmen routinely performed with valor, meriting the honor and respect of a grateful nation. Four Airmen were awarded the nation's highest honor for heroic deeds in the first world war, and 38 were awarded the medal during the second world war,"* General Schwartz said.

CURRENT ISSUES

[Air Force officials outline efficiencies processes](#)

In compliance with Department of Defense efficiency guidance, Air Force officials confirmed plans to implement fiscal 2012 budget proposals that shift dollars and people from overhead and support functions to modernization and warfighting areas.

PERSONNEL ISSUES

[Officials extend deadline for 'Stop Loss' pay](#)

The deadline for eligible service members, veterans and their beneficiaries to apply for special retroactive pay as compensation for involuntary extensions of their military service contracts has been extended to April 8. To apply for Stop Loss pay or for more information, including submission requirements and service-specific links, go to <http://www.defense.gov/stoploss>.

[Air Force offers additional undergraduate flying training board opportunity](#)

Air Force leaders expanded an opportunity for active-duty junior and mid-grade officers to cross-flow into one of many rated AFSCs with an additional undergraduate flying training board to be held in July at Randolph AFB, Texas. Call the special flying programs section at DSN 665-2330 or commercial at 210-565-2330.

[Realignments add to busy summer moving season](#)

Officials are asking service members to book their moving dates early and keep flexibility in mind when doing so. When notified of a move, immediately contact the local personal property shipment office, and then visit the [Move.Mil](#) website. Military OneSource also offers families a host of online moving resources, including "[Plan My Move](#)," which features a moving calendar and travel and arrival checklists, and "[Military Installations](#)," which links families to information about their new base and the local community.

GUARD AND RESERVE

[Active duty Air Force positions available](#)

Air Force officials are accepting applications from Air National Guard and Air Force Reserve members who wish to serve on active duty. Prior-service members who separated from the Air Force with an honorable discharge may be eligible to enter active duty in a number of career fields. All interested individuals should contact their [local recruiter](#) to submit an application.

FAMILY, HEALTH AND SAFETY

[TRICARE extends Web-based counseling program](#)

The [TRICARE Assistance Program](#) has been extended through March 20, 2012. This demonstration program lets active-duty service members and their families' beneficiaries use the Internet and a webcam to speak face-to-face with mental health counselors 24 hours a day, seven days a week, 365 days a year from any U.S. location. Other behavioral health services can be found at www.tricare.mil/mentalhealth.

[Rollout approaches for Young Adult TRICARE enrollment](#)

TRICARE will soon allow qualified young adults, up to age 26, to purchase military health plan coverage on a month-to-month basis. [TRICARE](#) will roll out the new Young Adult Program, including an option to make coverage retroactive to Jan. 1, in the near future.

[Classes aim to spark interest in science, technology](#)

[Department of Defense Education Activity](#) officials will roll out four innovative classes in some DOD high schools in the fall, with plans for a wider-scale launch to follow if the program proves successful. The courses are robotics engineering, biotechnology engineering, gaming technology and green-technology engineering.

Application Period Open for Operation Purple Summer Camp

The National Military Family Association is now accepting applications for [Operation Purple Summer Camps](#). This free summer camp program supports military children, ages 7-17, dealing with the stress of war. Each camp is "purple" and open to children of active duty, National Guard or Reserve service members from all branches of the military. Applications will be accepted until April 29th. Priority is given to military children with a parent deployed or deploying anytime between September 2010 and December 2011.

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

www.nafjobs.org

AIR FORCE HERITAGE TO HORIZONS

Sexual Assault Awareness Month occurs in April and commits to raising awareness and promoting the prevention of sexual violence through use of special events and public education. Visit the [Department of Defense Sexual Assault Prevention and Response Office](#) website for information on the 2011 campaign, "Hurts one. Affects all...Preventing sexual assault is everyone's duty."

This Week in Air Force History

April 1, 1954 – President Eisenhower signed into law a bill creating the Air Force Academy.

April 1, 1972 – Air Training Command activated the Community College of the Air Force at Randolph AFB, Texas.

April 3, 1967 – Chief Master Sgt. Paul W. Airey became the first chief master sergeant of the Air Force.

April 6, 1924 – Four specially built Douglas World Cruisers -- each with a crew of two men -- set off for the first flight around the world.

April 6, 1949 – The X-1 rocket plane flew at 1,000 mph, an unofficial world-record speed for piloted planes.

April 6, 1959 – NASA announced that seven pilots from the U.S. armed services are chosen for the Mercury astronaut program. Airmen selected are Capts. L. Gordon Cooper Jr., Virgil I. Grissom and Donald K. Slayton.

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

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