

Commander's Call Topics



April 15, 2011

"I would assert ... that the value of the manmade cyberspace domain is rising to the level of importance of the physical domains in modern warfare. In this era of information-enabled warfare, our cyberspace capabilities are absolutely essential." – Gen. William Shelton, Air Force Space Command commander, from [remarks](#) at the National Space Symposium

CURRENT ISSUES

[Deal averts shutdown, normal government operations to continue](#)

Government agencies are continuing normal operations after the administration, the Senate and the House of Representatives agreed to a fiscal 2011 budget. The continuing resolution expired April 8 at midnight, but the Senate and House passed a short-term funding bill that will allow both houses to finalize the full-year spending bill.

[President's plan likely to affect 2013 defense budget](#)

President Barack Obama's effort to seek additional savings within the Defense Department likely will affect the department's fiscal 2013 budget. The president announced that he plans to work with Defense Secretary Robert M. Gates and Navy Adm. Mike Mullen, the chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, to find more savings within the Defense Department to help in reducing the federal deficit.

PERSONNEL ISSUES

[Troops to receive full mid-month pay April 15th](#)

All service members will receive their full mid-month pay they have earned in their paychecks April 15. Officials urge service members to check their end-of-month leave and earnings statements carefully. The normal end-of-month statements will be posted to accounts April 22. The finance and accounting service has restored access to all leave and earnings statements, net pay advice or advice of pay for service members on [myPay](#).

[Changes to Air Force leave program take effect](#)

The changes to Air Force Instruction 36-3003 on Military Leave include revised rules for determining the first and last day of chargeable leave, emergency leave requests, permissive temporary duty and educational leave of absence. The leave rule for determining the first and last day of chargeable leave was changed to align Air Force procedures with Department of Defense guidance. For more information, call the unit military personnel section or Total Force Service Center at 800-525-0102.

[Yokota AB, Misawa AB commanders lift stop-movement order](#)

The orders issued March 12 and 14 that stopped active duty Air Force permanent-change-of-station moves to Yokota and Misawa air bases has been lifted, and active duty members are being directed to meet their report no later than dates. However, command-sponsored family members are not yet authorized to accompany military members. For more information, go to the [Air Force personnel services website](#) and do a keyword search for "stop movement," or call the Total Force Service Center at 800-525-0102.

[High school senior assignment deferral program automated](#)

Air Force personnel officials have automated the High School Senior Assignment Deferral program application. The program increases stability for military family members entering their senior year of high school. Active-duty officers lieutenant colonel and below, and enlisted members senior master sergeant and below, stationed in continental United States locations can apply on the Virtual Military Personnel Flight website.

[Changed South Korea duty tours aid readiness](#)

Normalizing U.S. military duty tours in South Korea will increase combat readiness and greatly reduce stress for service members and their families. The initiative increases troop tour lengths in South Korea to three years and allows their families to accompany them. It is part of the Strategic Alliance 2015 agreement that hands over wartime operational control on the Korean Peninsula to the South Korea military in December 2015.

FAMILY, HEALTH AND SAFETY

[Military family support a 'national priority,' Obama says](#)

President Barack Obama made caring for military families a national priority, announcing a national initiative to increase support for the families of U.S. service members. The initiative will focus on employment, education and wellness, and aims to raise awareness about the sacrifices and needs of military families. First lady Michelle Obama and Dr. Jill Biden, wife of Vice President Joe Biden, will launch a [national tour](#) as part of the initiative.

[Allergy tests covered for TRICARE beneficiaries](#)

TRICARE beneficiaries are eligible to receive care for the testing and treatment of conditions relating to allergies. This includes prescription medication approved by the FDA and allergy treatments administered by allergists. However, beneficiaries are responsible for the cost of most over-the-counter medications. Get more information on TRICARE allergy services at www.tricare.mil/mybenefit/allergy.

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

This Week in Air Force History

April 18, 1942 – Lt. Col. James Doolittle led 16 B-25 Mitchell bombers on a Tokyo bombing raid.

April 18, 1975 – The Strategic Air Command began transferring air refueling wings to the Air Force Reserve and Air National Guard. AFRES and ANG tanker units will support SAC alert operations.

April 19, 1967 – Maj. Leo K. Thorsness was awarded the Medal of Honor for protecting the rescue of downed airmen in North Vietnam. Flying an F-105 Thunderchief critically low on fuel, Major Thorsness shoots down one MiG-17, damages another, and drives off three more.

April 19, 1995 – A bomb exploded at a federal building in Oklahoma City, killing 169 people and injuring more than 400 others. The Air Force provided airlift of firefighters, search and rescue teams, investigators and medical personnel.

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

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