

# Commander's Call Topics



July 22, 2011

*"If we are to survive this period and come out of it with an Air Force that America's people will recognize in ten years, we're going to have to focus on those core, distinctive Air Force missions,"* Air Force Vice Chief of Staff Gen. Phil Breedlove said to members of the Department of Defense, international community and industry leaders July 21, 2011.

## FROM AIR FORCE SENIOR LEADERS

### [Air Force surgeon general lays out future of aeromedical evacuation](#)

The Air Force surgeon general addressed hundreds of medical professionals from around the world at the International Aeromedical Evacuation/En Route Care Conference here July 21. Lt. Gen. (Dr.) Charles Green was the keynote speaker on the second day of the first U.S.-led international in-flight medical care conference, and discussed the future of aeromedical evacuation.

### [Air Force works to improve energy efficiency](#)

The vice chief of staff of the Air Force outlined service energy priorities during a keynote address at the 2011 Army-Air Force Energy Forum here July 20. "The Air Force has developed an energy plan which concentrates on three pillars," Gen. Phil Breedlove said. "We are reducing demand, increasing supply and, probably as important as the first two, changing our usage culture."

## ► CURRENT ISSUES

### [Pentagon strategy address energy challenges](#)

Reducing demand, finding alternative energy sources and improving the energy security of military operations are among the goals of the Defense Department's operational energy strategy, a senior Pentagon official said here July 19. Sharon Burke, the assistant secretary of defense for operational energy plans and programs, described the strategy during an Army and Air Force energy forum.

### [Airmen's ideas sought to help cut wasteful spending](#)

The White House continues to challenge all federal employees to help identify areas where we can cut wasteful spending. Over the past two years, 56,000 ideas have been submitted through the Securing Americans Value and Efficiency (SAVE) initiative.

## ► PERSONNEL ISSUES

### [Air Force further reduces officers eligible for RIF](#)

Sufficient voluntary separations have resulted in the removal of several competitive categories from the September 2011 reduction-in-force board, according to Air Force officials. In April, Air Force officials announced the removal of chaplains and medical service corps officers from the board. Biomedical service corps and judge advocate general competitive categories are now also removed from the board.

### [New guide helps communities aid homeless women vets](#)

Officials with the Women's Bureau of the Department of Labor have released an online publication that will help community service providers aid homeless women veterans, Labor Secretary Hilda L. Solis said July 20. Solis addressed an audience of several hundred at the Women in Military Service for America Memorial Theater on the grounds of Arlington National Cemetery.

## **FAMILY, HEALTH AND SAFETY**

### **[TRICARE covers skilled nursing facility care](#)**

A skilled nursing facility is designed to provide short-term care for people who no longer need acute care in the hospital but are not well enough to go home. Under TRICARE, a SNF must have the staff and equipment to provide skilled nursing, skilled rehabilitation or other medically necessary health care services, including prescription medications.

## **CIVILIAN**

### **[Total Force Service Center expands service hours for civilians](#)**

The Total Force Service Center here has expanded its hours of operation for Air Force civilians requiring personnel assistance. The center is now servicing civilian inquiries 24/7 to help civilians resolve personnel issues. The TFSC was able to expand its support for civilians by providing service delivery representatives with additional training, equipping them to process civilian personnel transactions, officials said.

## **TECHNOLOGY**

### **[Cyber threat grows more destructive, Lynn says](#)**

The cyber threat the United States faces is increasing in severity and is accessible to a wide range of enemies, Deputy Defense Secretary William J. Lynn III said in a television interview broadcast July 14. "Most of what we see today is exploitation -- that's theft, stealing secrets, either commercial or military," Lynn told Ray Suarez on "PBS Newshour." "(But) we know the tools exist to destroy things, to destroy physical property, to destroy networks, to destroy data, maybe even take human lives."

## **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***

<http://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>

**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**

July 17, 1948 - With the Berlin Blockade still in effect, B-29s arrived in England for training at British bases. These were the first U.S. bombers to be based in the United Kingdom after World War II.

July 17, 1962 - Maj. Robert White flew X-15 No.3, with the XLR-99 rocket engine, on the first spaceflight by a manned aircraft. He reached a record altitude of 58.7 miles (314,750) feet above Edwards AFB, Calif. This was the first flight in which the X-15 achieved its designed altitude. Maj. White also became the first man to exceed Mach 6, when he attained 3,784 mph.

July 17, 1979 - The air-launched cruise missile test program began when General Dynamics launched its first AGM-109.

July 17, 1989 - First flight of the B-2.

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

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