



DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
AIR EDUCATION AND TRAINING COMMAND

Welcome to Keesler Air Force Base!

Keesler Air Force Base is home to the 81st Training Wing, one of the Air Force's largest wings. At Keesler we Train to Fight, Train to Win!

At Keesler, we train Airmen, Soldiers, Sailors, Marines and international students in 34 specialties ranging from cyber disciplines to air traffic control. In 2011, our Training Group graduated more than 5,000 Airmen from more than 400 technical courses. Yet, the training group is not alone in providing the Air Force's newest warriors. Our Medical Group is the home of robust graduate medical and dental education and enlisted technical training programs, ensuring our Air Force medical cadre has the highest skill and proficiency level.

We're also the home of the Air Force Reserve Command's 403d Wing. The 403d Wing includes the world famous 53rd Weather Reconnaissance Squadron and their WC-130Js, also known as the "Hurricane Hunters," and the 815th Airlift Squadron with their C-130Js, also known as the "Flying Jennies." Other associate units on Keesler include the 85th Engineering and Installation Squadron, who provides "with pride, world-wide" professional engineering and installation services of communications, electronics, satellite, and cyber equipment for joint war fighters; the 345th AS, the first C-130J active associate unit in the Air Force and the third active associate unit to activate under its parent wing, the 19th Airlift Wing from Little Rock Air Force Base, Ark. We are proud to host our parent unit, Second Air Force, in charge of all Air Force technical and Joint Expeditionary Tasking training.

When you arrive, you'll find a well-kept base with new housing for you and your family, new construction of first-class facilities and a welcoming community. If you have children, you'll be pleased to find that Biloxi High School was named one of the 200 best schools in the country in 2007 and the community is investing well in the local schools with new construction, information technology, and faculty training.

You'll also find a community that will welcome you with open arms. Keesler Airmen and their families are proud members of the Gulf Coast community, and are actively involved with our neighbors. For example, in 2011 Keesler Airmen donated more than 303,000

volunteer hours to community projects and we host the Mississippi State Special Olympics for several hundred athletes every May.

Off-base, you and your family will enjoy a number of attractions. The gorgeous beaches of the Gulf Coast have attracted a vibrant tourist and gaming presence that brings fabulous dining and world-class entertainment to your new home. Our proximity to New Orleans and Florida's resorts make us a centrally-located hub of great places for you and your family to enjoy.

We look forward to having you and your family joining our team. Welcome aboard!

BRADLEY D. SPACY
Brigadier General, USAF
Commander, 81st Training Wing