

Commander's Call Topics



Oct. 11, 2012

"I screamed, I cried, I called my dad at work and told him 'they found grandpa's plane'." -- Tonja Anderson, granddaughter of Airman Isaac Anderson, after learning about the [1952 crash](#) that claimed the life of her grandfather and 51 other passengers.

► CURRENT ISSUES

[Air Force medical treatment facilities not involved in multi-state meningitis outbreak](#)

The Air Force Surgeon General confirmed that no Air Force medical treatment facilities have purchased, dispensed or administered the contaminated steroid injection that has been implicated in the fungal meningitis outbreak reported in the national news.

[AFPC officials grant CMS access to additional PERSCO teams](#)

Air Force officials have given Personnel Support for Contingency Operations teams access to the Air Force Case Management System at more locations throughout U.S. Southern Command, U.S. Air Forces in Europe, Pacific Air Forces and Air Combat Command.

[AF officials reestablish squadron commander support staffs](#)

Air Force officials reestablished squadron commander support staffs on Oct. 1 to help commanders manage administrative duties and other personnel and knowledge operations functions.

['Vortex surfing' could be revolutionary](#)

Migrating birds, NASCAR drivers and Tour de France bicyclists already get it.

► PERSONNEL ISSUES

[AF names officers selected for promotion](#)

More than 3,200 lieutenants, captains and majors have been selected for promotion, Air Force Personnel Center officials announced.

► FAMILY, HEALTH AND SAFETY

[Active-duty Airmen can pass education benefits to dependents](#)

More than 86,000 active duty Air Force members have transferred Post 9/11 GI Bill education benefits to dependent family members since the benefit transfer program was implemented in August 2009.

► ENVIRONMENT, SPACE, TECHNOLOGY

[Cape Cod wind turbines help Air Force top DOD energy goals](#)

Change is blowing into Cape Cod Air Force Station as the 6th Space Warning Squadron receives two new wind turbines here saving an estimated \$1 million in annual energy costs.

['Silent Sentry' gives deployed Airmen upper hand in space superiority](#)

With the advancement of technology, satellite communication has been a key factor in maintaining space superiority throughout the entire area of responsibility.

[AEDC's newest national space testing asset on its way to mission readiness](#)

A project team at the Arnold Engineering Development Complex has successfully completed an initial site acceptance test campaign on Arnold Air Force Base's new, one-of-a-kind space asset testing facility.

► RESOURCES

AF.mil

<http://www.af.mil>

Airman magazine

<http://www.airmanonline.af.mil/>

Air Force Outreach

<http://www.afoutreach.af.mil/>

Military OneSource

<http://www.militaryonesource.com/>

Military HOMEFRONT

<http://www.militaryhomefront.dod.>

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 News

<http://www.defense.gov>

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
www.nafjobs.org

Air Force Association Scholarships

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

Individual Action Yields Big Energy Savings

October is Federal Energy Action Month, and this year's theme is "I am Air Force Energy," gives Airmen the opportunity to take action and ask questions about energy efficiency in their community.

[Maj. Gen. Timothy Byers](#), The Civil Engineer, Headquarters U.S. Air Force, Washington, D.C., recommends taking a proactive approach to energy conservation in an edition of CEnterline, stating A-C-T-I-O-N is key.

A is for **Appliance reduction**. Around the office and at home, seek out Energy Star-qualified multifunction devices that provide multiple capabilities (print, scan, copy). This not only saves energy but also space.

C is for **Computer log-off**. Even though we cannot turn off our computers at the end of the work day due to updates, we can log-off. This ensures the computers will go into sleep mode properly. The team of Information Technology Power Management for the Air Force estimates this action alone can save more than \$10 million a year.

T is for **Temperature set points**. Most bases use approximately 68 degrees in the winter and 78 degrees in the summer. Rather than using space heaters or fans, everyone should dress appropriately for the facility's temperature.

I is for **Inform you facility manager**. Report leaky faucets, blocked air vents, cracked windows and/or any other problems to your facility manager or CE customer service.

O is for **Outdoor conservation**. Report instances like parking lot lights left on during the day or a broken sprinkler head dripping water to CE customer service. Corrective actions indoors and outdoors around base can have a huge impact on energy and water conservation goals.

N is for **No waste**. Do not turn a blind eye. Take action. If you see a problem, report it. If you see something that does not need to be on, turn it off.

Taking Action for Optimum Energy

With October listed as energy action month, there is no better example of how an organization is dealing with energy consumption issues than the U.S. Air Force.

The Air Force is the largest consumer of energy in the Department of Defense, simply because the mission and the means for achieving it leave little room for energy interchangeability. Simply put, specific technologies—such as airplanes—require specific fuels. However, some energy, like electricity, can be obtained from renewable sources.

Secretary of the Air Force Michael Donley gave the keynote address at the 2012 National Clean Air Summit, an annual gathering of leaders from government, business, non-profit organizations and academia to discuss the transformation of the nation's energy and infrastructure.

Donley noted that last year, six percent of Air Force energy consumption was from renewable sources, surpassing federal goals. The Air Force is posturing to increase this goal to 25 percent by 2025 through the more than 180 renewable projects ongoing or under construction today.

- The 6th Space Warning Squadron at the Cape Cod Air Force Station is preparing to install two 1.6 megawatt utility-scale wind turbines at the station's early warning radar site. Expected to be completed by November 2013, the installation is estimated to cut the station's energy cost by 50 percent. Each turbine reduces air emissions by more than 1,000 metric tons of sulfur dioxide, nitrogen oxide and carbon dioxide annually.

- Renewable energy in the form of photovoltaic solar arrays at Nellis AFB, Nev., and Davis-Monthan AFB, Ariz., make use of the ever-present sunshine in America's Southwest. Following on Nellis' successful installation in 2007, Davis-Monthan has entered into an agreement with SunEdison, LLC to design, finance, build, operate and maintain the 14.5 megawatt PV solar array on 170 underutilized acres. It is estimated that, when completed in December, the PV array will save the base \$400,000 to \$500,000 annually.

- Tinker AFB, in Oklahoma City, the largest Air Force facility energy consumer, has awarded an energy savings performance contract (ESPC) to reduce Tinker's energy intensity by 30 percent and save an estimated \$6.4 million a year. A joint effort among Tinker, Honeywell, the Department of Energy, Headquarters, Air Force Material Command and the Air Force Civil Engineer Support Agency, the ESPC will improve energy efficiencies for 70 buildings, some dating to the 1940s, and save enough energy to power 12,424 average homes a year.

Getting the most for our energy expenditure is what it's all about, and these are but three of the changes that are being made to reach the 2025 goal. Energy Action: It's not just for October anymore!

► THIS WEEK IN AIR FORCE HISTORY

Oct. 11, 1984 – Mobility Air Command flew U.S. Secret Service vehicles to Puerto Rico to protect Pope John Paul II during his visit to San Juan.

Oct. 12, 1977 – The Air Force's first class of five women navigators graduated. Three of the five were assigned to Mobility Air Command aircrews.

Oct. 13, 1952 – Strategic Air Command submitted a requirement for an air-launched decoy missile to defeat an enemy's radar defenses. This action led to the development of the GAM-72A Quail Missile.

Oct. 14, 1940 – Maj. Reuben Moffat, the 33rd Pursuit Group Commander, became the first Army Air Corps pilot to fly an aircraft off a carrier. He flew his Curtiss P-40 off the USS Wasp.

Oct. 15, 1997 – Retired Brigadier General Charles "Chuck" Yeager broke the sound barrier again in front of a crowd of more than 5,000 people at Edwards AFB, Calif., to commemorate the 50th Anniversary of his historic supersonic flight. Yeager flew an F-15 Eagle while his first supersonic flight chase and long-time friend, Bob Hoover, and Air Force Flight Test Center Vice Commander James Doolittle III flew an F-16 Fighting Falcon for chase.

Oct. 16, 2001 – An Air Force Flight Test Center pilot flew two Global Hawks concurrently for the accelerated Replace-On-Station program at Edwards AFB, Calif. The test showed that one pilot could control two remotely piloted aircraft with little additional effort.

Oct. 17, 2001 – During Operation Enduring Freedom, elements of the 186th Air Refueling Wing and the 117th ARW formed a composite unit at Incirlik Air Base, Turkey, to support this operation. The wings switched lead unit status every 90 days.

For more information on Air Force heritage, visit

<http://www.airforcehistory.af.mil>.

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