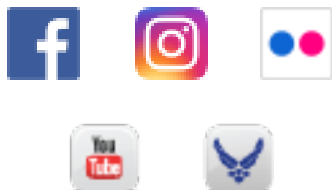




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Commander's Corner

Memorial Day Message

913th,

Our nation marks Memorial Day to honor and pay tribute to brave Americans who gave their life for this country. Many generations have sacrificed in defense of our nation, our liberty, and our desire to improve our country. On Memorial Day, we humbly honor these incredible patriots and have a solemn duty to uphold their legacy.

At its core, Memorial Day speaks of personal sacrifice for a greater good. It resonates in the stories of ordinary Americans, who fought for a better world and were willing to lay down their lives. Our way of life is shaped by those who have served and those who were lost. We have benefited from their positive influence on our world. It is our solemn duty to honor for our fallen brothers and sisters in arms and their families. This day reflects on heroes from historically distant wars passed and current operations. We honor their legacy and work toward a peaceful future, in which wars are a faded memory.

I encourage you all to keep the legacy of our fallen brothers and sisters in arms alive within your communities. Take time to reflect together with your friends, neighbors, groups, and communities, so those stories and sacrifices are never forgotten.

Respectfully,
Colonel Christopher K. Lacouture
913th Airlift Group Commander



Air Force News

AFRC Command Chief visits

Arkansas' only Reserve unit

Chief Master Sgt. Timothy White Jr., the Senior Enlisted Advisor to the Chief of Air Force Reserve and Command Chief Master Sergeant of Air Force Reserve Command, visited Little Rock Air Force Base, April 10, 2021. This was the first opportunity for White to visit the Reserve Citizen Airmen assigned to the 913th Airlift Group, Arkansas' only Reserve unit.

During the visit, White and Chief Master Sgt. Travon Dennis, Command First Sergeant Functional Manager, met with groups of Airmen throughout the day to conduct more personalized face-to-face interactions. Even though these visitations are to gain familiarity with an organization's military capabilities and readiness, the senior leaders also further communication between the command's senior leaders and unit members.

[Click here to read more](#)

If you must cheat, cheat death: The legacy of the Cheat callsign



To most people, the word "cheat" may signify deception or trickery. But to the Airmen in the 327th Airlift Squadron at Little Rock Air Force Base, being a cheater is a source of pride.

When the 327 AS joined the 913th Airlift Group, its callsign was "TUSK," which was derived from Arkansans love of the University of Arkansas Razorback teams.

"There was really no connection to our heritage," Lt. Col. Paul Campbell, Director of Operations for the squadron, said.

So, after returning from a deployment, members of the squadron started thinking of a callsign that would tell their story better.

[Click here to read more](#)

Seamless Reserve integration into joint readiness exercise

U.S. Air Force Reserve aircrew from the 327th Airlift Squadron joined efforts with their active duty counterparts to coordinate and conduct air mobility operations during an U.S. Army Joint Readiness Training event, Fort Polk, Louisiana, April 15, 2021.

This event not only provided tactical airlift for U.S. Army personnel and equipment needed for their deployment readiness exercise but also included aircrew training. Reserve and active duty Airmen from 19th Airlift Wing based out of Little Rock Air Force Base, Arkansas, and 317th Airlift Wing based out of Dyess AFB, Texas, incorporated threat reaction scenarios, aircraft formation training and accomplished engine running offloads with oversized cargo.

"It takes incredible skill to coordinate with various agencies to deliver combat capabilities at the right place, right time," said Maj. Eric Dueno, 913th Operations Support Squadron director of tactics. "Not only did we join into a 16-ship formation while enroute, but we also uploaded oversized cargo, and conducted radar threat training. We maximized this opportunity to increase our readiness and operational capabilities."

[Click here to read more](#)

Congratulations

Newly Promoted Members

Congrats to those who promoted in April!

Master Sgt. Kquawmae Akins, 913 MXS
 Master Sgt. Robert Davis, 96 APS
 Master Sgt. Jimme McDougall, 913 MXS
 Master Sgt. Malcom Moe, 96 APS
 Master Sgt. Jerome Nunley, 913 AG/EO
 Tech. Sgt. William Lawson, 913 AMDS
 Tech. Sgt. Jervaughn Stewart, 96 APS
 Senior Amn Bria Lawson, 913 AMDS
 Senior Amn Jasmine Broomfield, 327 AS
 Senior Amn Dominique Sims, 913 AMDS



Did you know?

Social Security Tax Withholding Deferral



There are several important dates taxpayers should keep in mind for this year's filing season:

- Jan. 15. IRS Free File opens. Taxpayers can begin filing returns through Free File partners; tax returns will be transmitted to the IRS starting Feb. 12. Tax software companies also are accepting tax filings in advance.
- Jan. 29. Earned Income Tax Credit Awareness Day to raise awareness of valuable tax credits available to many people – including the option to use prior-year income to qualify.
- Feb. 12. IRS begins 2021 tax season. Individual tax returns begin being accepted and processing begins.
- Feb. 22. Projected date for the IRS.gov Where's My Refund tool being updated for those claiming EITC and ACTC, also referred to as PATH Act returns.
- First week of March. Tax refunds begin reaching those claiming EITC and ACTC (PATH Act returns) for those who file electronically with direct deposit and there are no issues with their tax returns.
- May 17 Deadline for filing 2020 tax returns.
- Oct. 15. Deadline to file for those requesting an extension on their 2020 tax returns

The IRS has a variety of resources to help members of the military, veterans and their families navigate the unique and sometimes complex circumstances that come with filing taxes while in the military. <https://go.usa.gov/xAGpq>

At the end of December, the 2020 Social Security tax deferral will end. Beginning January 2021, the normal 6.2% Social Security tax withholdings will again be deducted from pay for military members and civilians, and an additional deduction for the deferred 2020 Social Security tax collection taken from pay. Per IRS guidance (as modified by the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2021), the Social Security taxes deferred in 2020 will be collected from pay between January 1 and December 31, 2021.

For reservists and guardsmen performing intermittent duty in 2021, the amount collected may not be the same every pay period. DFAS will collect 2% of net available from each weekly, mid-month and end-of-month pay, and will continue until the deferred taxes have been repaid in full.

[Click here to read more](#)



[Click here to read more](#)

[Click here to read more](#)

UTA Schedule

Friday, 30 April

1300-1345 - Pre-UTA & Strategic Alignment Meeting (Bldg 266, Ops auditorium)
1450-1550 - Squadron Commanders' Meeting (Bldg 266, Ops auditorium)
1600-1630 - ART/SORTS/DRSS meeting (Bldg 266, Ops auditorium)

Saturday, 1 May

0800-1100 - Newcomers briefing (Bldg 266, APS auditorium)
0800-1200 - Group Staff CBRNE training/M-4 training (APS auditorium)
0830-1530 - PHAs, Audio & Dental exams (19 Med group, bldg 1950)
1000-1200 - 3F5 Training (Bldg 262, HQ Conf rm))
1500-1600 - AG/CC Walk-in Time *Group Staff Directors & Sq/CCs as needed)

Sunday, 2 May

0730-0900 - Fitness Testing (HAWC) deferred until July 2021
0830-1100 - End of Course testing (Base Education Center)
0830-1500 - AMDS COVID-19 Vaccination (Walters Center) *2nd dose personnel only

Fiscal Year 21 UTA Schedule

~~3-4 October 2020~~
~~7-8 November 2020~~
~~5-6 December 2020 (reschedule UTA with unit)~~
~~9-10 January 2021~~
~~6-7 February 2021~~
~~6-7 March 2021~~
~~8-11 April 2021~~
1-2 May 2021
5-6 June 2021
No July UTA
7-8 August 2021
11-12 September 2021

Schedule is subject to last minute changes. Check your CSS for the latest schedule.

Health and Wellness

Working on that Fitness

Vital 90 workout classes are available specifically for drill weekends!

Drill Saturdays: 4 p.m.

Drill Sundays: 6 a.m.

Warfit pavilion (near track)

Might move classes indoors to an aircraft hangar (H255) for cold weather. Check 913AG Facebook for updates.

The class is no more than **one hour**. It is a mixture of cardio and strength training. There is a mix of running (not long distance, but short intervals and some sprinting) and rowing into the workouts. Instructors mix it up and many times, will vary our workout depending upon class size.



During the week, Vital 90 classes are held Monday through Friday at 7 a.m. & 11 a.m. and at 6 p.m., Monday through Thursday.

Update Fitness Due Date Matrix

[Click here to visit the testing Matrix](#)

Air Force Personnel Center

[Click here to visit the AFPC fitness site](#)

Fitness test moved to July story

[Click here to read more](#)

FITNESS & SPORTS CENTER

Monday - Thursday: 5 AM - 10 PM

Friday: 5 AM - 7 PM

Saturday: 9 AM - 6 PM

Sunday, Holidays and Down Days: 24 Hour Fitness Access Only (registration required)

To register for 24 Hour Access, please see the front desk during regular hours.

Ditch the diet! Intuitive eating might offer a better way to fuel your body and mind

If you're one of the many chronic dieters out there, you've probably found that most diets don't work. Many people experience some success with any new diet, but end up slipping back into their old habits and regain the weight they lost. Weight fluctuations—or "yo-yo" dieting—aren't good for your health and can lead to feelings of frustration and poor body image. An alternative approach to the traditional diet is intuitive eating. With intuitive eating, you learn to listen to your own body's needs. While the focus of intuitive eating isn't weight loss, it helps many people create a healthier relationship with food and their bodies.



Intuitive-eating principles

Intuitive eating isn't a strict diet or food plan, but rather a process in which you learn to become aware of your own body's messages to meet your physical and psychological needs. There are 10 principles to the practice:

1. Reject the diet mentality.
2. Honor your hunger.
3. Make peace with food.
4. Challenge the food police.
5. Respect your fullness.
6. Discover the satisfaction factor.
7. Honor your feelings without using food.
8. Respect your body.
9. Exercise – feel the difference.
10. Honor your health with gentle nutrition.

[Click here to read more](#)

Personnel scheduled to physically show for drill are requested to answer the “Safe to Work” questions below. Communicate with your supervisors if you have questions or concerns.



Air Force COVID Website

AFRC COVID Website

Little Rock AFB COVID Website

AR Dept. Of Health

CDC Website

DoD Updates

Pfizer Vaccine Factsheet

Moderna Vaccine Factsheet

CDC COVID-19 Vaccine Myths & Facts



Click on the image or right click to copy the web address to read more about Myths and Facts regarding COVID-19 Vaccines

Need the COVID-19 vaccine? The 19th Medical Group has COVID-19 vaccines. If you work on base and/or are enrolled with a Primary Care Manager at the 19th MDG, sign up now!

While supplies last, get your Moderna COVID-19 vaccine at the next Point of Dispensing (POD). PODs are typically held every Friday and slots are limited.

Schedule your vaccine today! Scan the QR code below or access this link:

<https://informatics-stage.health.mil/LRAFBCOVIDApp/>



<https://informatics-stage.health.mil/LRAFBCOVIDApp/>
or

READY WARRIORS!



913th Airlift Group Safe to Work Questions

Have you directly and persistently been exposed to someone who has tested positive for COVID-19 in the past 14 days?

NO →

YES

Have you experienced a persistent fever over 100.4°F in the past 14 days?

NO →

YES

Have you experienced a persistent cough in the past 14 days?

NO →

YES

Have you experienced persistent shortness of breath in the past 14 days?

NO →

YES

Do you have any other symptoms?

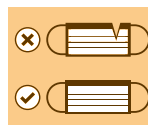
NO →

Self-monitor and wear a mask. Proceed to next question above.

YES →

Consult with squadron leadership if you should stay home or come to drill.

How to Wear Cloth Face Coverings



CHECK YOUR MASK
Make sure it's not damaged



SECURE YOUR MASK
Secure the strings behind your head or over your ears



COVER YOUR MOUTH AND NOSE FULLY
make sure there are no gaps

Cloth face coverings should –

- Fit snugly but comfortably against the side of the face
- Be secured with ties or ear loops
- Include multiple layers of fabric
- Allow for breathing without restriction
- Be able to be laundered and machine dried without damage or change to shape.

GO TO DRILL

You must be physically present at drill weekend with appropriate PPE.

If member is not having symptoms (fever, chills, body aches, persistent cough or shortness of breath) then member must self-monitor and wear a mask.

Process Improvement & CRF

New avionics invention saves Gunfighters time, money

Wasting time is annoying. For a company, it costs money. For the Air Force, it could cost lives. So what if you had an idea to make things better and save time? Could you make your idea a reality?

The Air Force says yes.

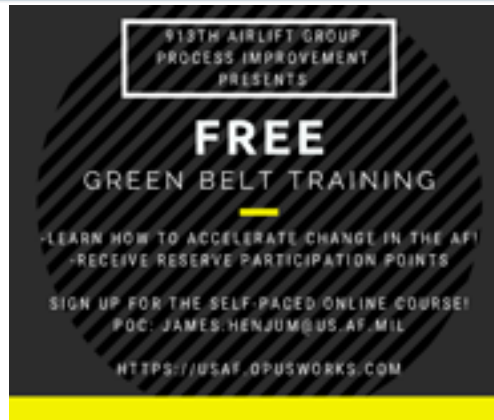
That's exactly the case of Senior Master Sgt. Mike Chandler, 142nd Maintenance Squadron avionics backshop flight chief out of the Portland Air National Guard. He spent years inventing, planning and implementing his invention.

Chandler has teamed up with the 366th Maintenance Squadron here to build and integrate his Avionics Electronic Systems Test Station (ESTS) Cable Tester design that is projected to significantly enhance combat readiness and save resources. "The ESTS test station is used to test flight control computers, radar units and communication systems on the F-15E Strike Eagle," Chandler said.



[Click here to read more](#)

Free Green Belt Training



Air Force leaders have charged all Airmen to accelerate change across every level of the Air Force. Green Belt training online is now offered to all Military and Civilian personnel.

The course is spaced out over nine weeks, requiring an hour each day to complete the training without significantly impacting duties. The course is accessible on the government network or personal devices.

The course is made up of 36 hours of self-paced online training and four hours of structured virtual class time. Each Reserve student can receive points only credit time in addition to the certificate of completion, continuing education credits, and a special experience identifier.

Click on the link below to sign up for training. Be sure to place Jim Henjum (james.henjum@us.af.mil) as your group POC.

[Click here to sign up](#)

T-56

Centralized Repair Facility Highlight

FY21 Production:

Engines: 49

Props: 23



Current as of April 23, 2021



Safety Highlights

Seasonal Safety Concerns

Courtesy of the 913 AG Safety Office

BOATING SAFETY

Anyone born on or after Jan. 1, 1986, and of legal age to operate a motorboat or sailboat, must have successfully completed an approved AGFC Boating Education Course and carry proof while operating a motorboat or sailboat on Arkansas water.

You do not have to be a resident of Arkansas to take this course.

Visit the Arkansas Game & Fish Commission, where you will find more information and links to Instructor-Led and Online courses:

<https://www.agfc.com/en/education/first-steps-outdoors/boatered/>

Direct link to the online course: <https://www.boat-ed.com/arkansas/>



MEMORIAL DAY

This day is observed on the last Monday of May, honoring the men and women who died while serving in the U.S. military. Many Americans observe Memorial Day by visiting cemeteries or memorials, holding family gatherings and participating in parades. Unofficially, it marks the beginning of the summer season, or Critical Days of Summer, as we often refer to it. In our joys and pleasures, let us not forget that freedom isn't free. Reflect on the meaning of the word "Memorial" Day and remember the more than 1.3 million* brave men and women who selfishly served and secured our liberties with their lives. We thank you, salute you, and are forever grateful for your sacrifice.

Reference:

1. O'Neill, Aaron. "United States: War fatalities 1775-2021." Statista, 12 Apr. 2021, www.statista.com/statistics/1009819/total-us-military-fatalities-in-american-wars-1775-present/.



OPSEC Highlights

Courtesy of Threat post

Call of Duty Cheats Expose Gamers to Malware, Takeover

Activision is warning that cyberattackers are disguising malware – a remote-access trojan (RAT) – in cheat programs.

Activision, the company behind Call of Duty: Warzone, has issued a warning that a threat actor is taking out ads for cheat tools, which instead turn out to be remote-access trojan (RAT) malware.

The scam was first floated in March when a cyberattacker posted in hacking forums that they had a free, “newbie-friendly” method for spreading a RAT: Convince victims the malware is a video game cheat, Activision said in its warning.

“It is common practice when configuring a cheat program to run it with the highest system privileges,” Activision reported. “Guides for cheats will typically ask users to disable or uninstall antivirus software and host firewalls, disable kernel code-signing, etc.”

At the time, the threat actor also posted the malware file to set up the attack, which received more than 10,000 views and 260 replies, Activision added. The post was followed up with additional instructions in the comments and linked to a YouTube video explainer, which racked up 5,000 views, the report said.



COD Dropper

This was the first time researchers were able to identify the malware, which they’ve named “COD-Dropper v0.1”.

“Instead of malicious actors putting in hours of work creating complicated mitigation bypasses or leveraging existing exploits – they can instead work to create convincing cheat advertisements, which if priced competitively, could potentially get some attention,” Activision’s report added. “In December 2020, the dropper was also included in a ‘black hat’ tutorial aimed at ‘noobies’ looking to make some easy money.”

The report points out that many of the cheat forums try and block anything that doesn’t seem genuine, which means the attacker needs to keep a low profile to keep from getting booted.

“This advertisement did not appear to be particularly clever or take much effort, but still had people replying, asking if

anyone had tried it before being removed a day later,” the report said.

The same ad has popped back up on the forums and was seen by Activision as recently as March 1. And a YouTube video promising an “undetected” cheat for COD: Warzone has detailed instructions on how to disable antivirus software and run the program as an admin – giving the malware full access to the victim’s system.

“In likely a further attempt to scam people, the description also offered a private version of the cheat for a \$10 BTC payment,” the report added.

The comments show that people did try and download the tool.

Another YouTube video pushing the same malware showed up last August, with a direct link to infect the user, which had received 376 views, Activision added.

Activision pointed out that tricking players into downloading the software isn’t a heavy lift.

“While this method is rather simplistic, it is ultimately a social-engineering technique that leverages the willingness of its target (players that want to cheat) to voluntarily lower their security protections and ignore warnings about running potentially malicious software,” Activision added.

[Click to read more](#)

Hot Off The Press

(Satire)

Crossing Guards, Cryptid, Production

Courtesy of Staff Sgt. Christian Diaz, 913 MXS

SAFETY BRIEF

When visiting Air Force bases that double as tech schools, it is important to avoid interacting with local fauna. Master Sgt. Akins explains why after a recent encounter from his TDY to Keesler AFB, Miss.

"So I was driving home after work and these Marines were marching across the road. I'm minding my business but their road guard is making heavy eye contact with me, like he's sizing up my car or something.

"I notice he starts hunkering down. He goes from parade rest into parade wrestler, and I'm thinking, 'Trainee, you cannot take on this Corvette.' I decide to rev my engine at him, let him know, but he took that some type of way.

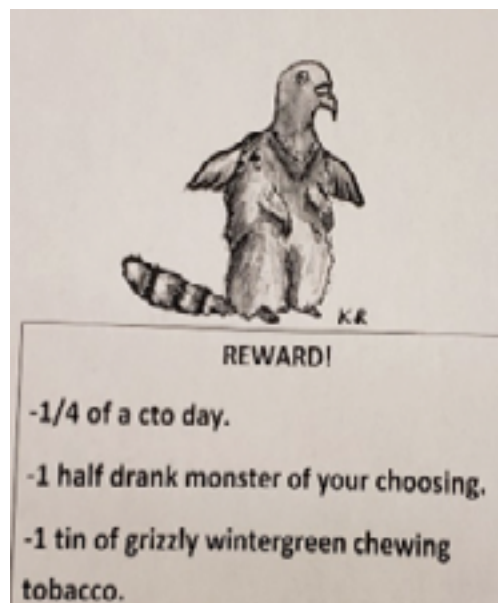
"Next thing I know he's charging at me, full on sprint.

"There was this moment of clarity where I'm thinking, am I about to kill this kid or is he about to total my Chevy? It felt like a lose/lose so I just threw it in reverse and peeled out. Anyway, y'all stay away from them tech school-ers."



CRYPTID SIGHTING

Airmen beware!



Lurking in the dark rafters of the ISO hangar, where harsh environs force avian and mammal alike to huddle for warmth, the pidgcoon rears its ugly head.

Local cryptozoologist Staff Sgt. Halvorson provides tips on surviving this winged menace.

"Travel in packs, avoid dark corners, and never work past COB. That's when it feeds. In fact," Halvorson insists, "supervisors should just send their Airmen home 30 minutes early until I give the all clear. Better safe than sorry."

AIMING TOO HIGH?

Local mens' room janitor says, "Yes, y'all are."

Leadership is considering his petition that all servicemen should sit to use the restroom.

"I just think y'all could fly, fight, and win without peeing on the floor."

According to the suggested policy change, urinal privileges would be reserved only for Airmen with Expert Marksman ribbons.

WHEN PRODUCTION NEEDS SOMEONE TO CLEAR THE LINE



SrA Fancher

Camera Roll

Click to Connect:

