

April 2015

# RABBIT TALES

AL NEWSLETTER OF THE 513TH AIR CO GROUP

## Secretary of the Air Force visits Tinker Reservists

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Message from the top // What's your social media thumbprint?

# RABBIT TALES

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All photographs are Air Force photographs unless otherwise indicated.

## 513TH UPDATE

### AF Secretary visits Tinker

Secretary of the Air Force Deborah Lee James thanked Team Tinker members here March 27 for critical support of the nation's warfighters amid budget constraints, fewer aircraft and personnel than ever, and more demands for what they do.

"Everywhere I go, the ops tempo and the working environment is very, very busy," Secretary James said at an All Call at the Tinker Auditorium. "People are working very, very hard, and I want to thank all of you here at Tinker. From what I've seen today, there is no question in my mind that you have this enormous dedication and passion, and you really do exhibit that selfless service that we always talk about as one of our key, core tenets in the Air Force."

The 23rd Air Force secretary's first Tinker visit included visits to the Air Force Sustainment Center headquarters, the Oklahoma City Air Logistics Complex, production operations in Bldg. 9001, the 507th Air Refueling Wing, the 552nd Air Control Wing and the 72nd Air Base Wing.

Speaking to hundreds of Airmen, Secretary James delivered a comprehensive overview of her ongoing discussions with Congress in creating next year's Air Force budget, which begins Oct. 1.

Secretary James said she and Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. Mark A. Welsh III have been telling members of Congress that sequestration - the off-the-top, across-the-board federal budget-cutting law - must end for the Air Force. ~ by John Parker, Tinker Take Off

### Cover photo

Col. David Robertson, the 513th Air Control Group commander, speaks with the Secretary of the Air Force Deborah Lee James about Reserve operations during the secretary's visit here March 27. (U.S. Air Force Photo/ Staff Sgt. Caleb Wanzer)



### Current, former Thumper reunion



Former Thumper Lt. Col. Jim Matthey submitted this impromptu reunion in the Republic of Korea with another former Thumper, Col. Wright and our very own Col. Matt Conrad, who was TDY for an exercise.

### Fit to Fight hall of fame



Team Tinker

513th ACG



#### 1.5-Mile Run

Men: **7:51** **8:57** Men: TSgt Daniel McDonald  
 Women: **9:44** **12:07** Women: TSgt Krystal Stalder

#### Pushups

Men: **110** **82** Men: SrA Robert Duncan  
 Women: **65** **48** Women: 1st Lt. Lily Baker

#### Situps

Men: **109** **92** Men: 1st Lt. Michael Doughty  
 Women: **84** **63** Women: 1st Lt. Amie Inman

#### 1-Mile Walk

Men & Women: **9:15** **11:22** Men: MSgt Darrell Freel  
**13:57** Women: MSgt Elizabeth Staff

# Strategic vision and success

By **Col. David W. Robertson**  
*Commander, 513th Air Control Group*

It's been asked, "How can you tell if you've achieved success if you don't know what success looks like?" This is a great question for each of us to consider. How do you define success, excellence and achievement? How do you know when you've achieved that success-- what measurement do you use to know you've achieved it? The answers to these questions tell a good deal about us as individuals and also the environment in which we exist.

We also need to consider these questions as a unit. What does it mean to be successful as the only Reserve AWACS unit in the Air Force? Do we recognize excellence and how it's achieved? Now that we've survived potential unit closure, what do we want to look like as a unit in the next 3 years? The next 5 years?

On Monday following the April UTA, senior officers and NCOs from across all squadrons in the 513th ACG will spend an entire day answering these questions and setting the tone for the 513th for the next 3-5 years. It's apparent that, given the budget realities of the future, we'll need to become more engaged with Combatant Commands around the globe. AFRC, as a MAJCOM in its own right, has positioned itself as a force provider, providing Reserve forces directly to COCOMs worldwide. The Force Generation Center at AFRC is the conduit for COCOMs to request Reserve forces and is also the conduit for units to answer the call. The 513th will be a part of this trend as we market ourselves as the premier AWACS unit in the inventory--the unit with the most experience and continuity, bar none.



However, we need you to be part of this new strategic vision. Indeed, you are the most important part of the equation. What do you think we're doing right as a unit? What frustrates you? Where do you think we need to be as a unit in the next 3 to 5 years? Share your thoughts with your supervisor so we can discuss your ideas at our post-UTA leadership meeting. Bottom line: we want to meet the new mission paradigm that the future demands while also making the 513th a unit that you are proud of and want to remain with for years to come.

Finally, as we plan for the future, we will not lose the best parts of being in the Reserves. We all became Reservists for a reason and we will maintain the family atmosphere of the 513th. The 513th has a tradition of excellence, and this tradition will continue into the future. With your help we will smartly steer the 513th through future challenges and continue our legacy of success.

# Come help us celebrate!



Join us for cake and candles  
to say happy birthday  
to the Air Force Reserve!

When?

**1530 on April 11th**

Where?

**970th AACS  
Conference Room**

# What's your social media thumbprint?

By Staff Sgt. Jessica Hines  
USAFE-AF/AFRICA Public Affairs

RAMSTEIN AIR BASE, Germany (AFNS) -- We've all done it; in a vain sense of curiosity to see if our social presence has made any kind of impact on the world. Just admit it - you've Googled yourself.

Since entering the golden age of social media, it seems that now it's not hard to gather a handful of information on just about anyone, even ourselves.

But isn't that the point? It's why we blast pictures of high school graduations, trips to Europe, and all our favorite music and movie "Likes" on our profiles. We want to be heard and seen, we want to share our accomplishments and victories and find support when life gets hard.

Social media has allowed us to network and reach across the barriers of time and space to share our story, build partnerships and connect with people from around the world we may never have had the chance to.

It's not hard to get caught up in the exchange of information and let our guard down, especially when we believe our information is safe. Generally, the information we share is harmless.

We start to run into trouble when the information we share across various social networks is strung together like pieces of a puzzle, creating a larger snapshot of our lives than we realize. When coupled with

public records and open-source content, the information we share online can create vulnerabilities in our personal and professional lives.

But, where do we draw the line? When does information sharing become too much of a good thing?

Just as you would lock the front door of your home or secure your wallet, social media users should aim to lockup and secure their online personal information and do regular checkups of their social thumbprint.

This should include Googling yourself to not just see how awesome and popular you are, but to see what information is readily available or associated with your name. From there, you can take the necessary steps to protect or remove potentially revealing information.

Another important social check-up habit people should practice is digging into a website's privacy and security settings. All social media sites require users to accept and Privacy Act agreements and terms of use guidelines. Unfortunately, nearly everyone accepts these terms without every reading what they agreed to. This is probably one of the biggest culprits of overexposing personal information.

The agreements between social networking sites and users are designed to help keep personal information safe. However, it's our responsibility to ensure we use them to their fullest potential and not blindly accept new security settings without checking to see if our information is still secure.



Just as you would lock the front door of your home or secure your wallet, social media users should aim to lock-up and secure their online personal information and do regular check-ups of their social thumbprint. (U.S. Air Force graphic/Staff Sgt. Jessica Hines)

## 10 ways to stay safe online

**1** Think before you post: A good rule of thumb is if you wouldn't say it in front of your boss or grandmother, then you probably shouldn't say it online. Remember, the Internet is permanent with a long memory of our actions. Even if you delete something, someone else may have already seen, copied and shared the information. When in doubt, keep it to yourself.

**2** Be selective, be e-selective: Having a thousand-plus friends might look cool, but isn't realistic. It's important to scrutinize who you add as a "friend" and ensure that you actually know them. Don't be fooled by fake profiles and marketing schemes.

**3** Geo-tag this: While you may have disabled location settings within a specific app or website, be sure to check the privacy settings within your smartphone, tablet and personal computer. You may be broadcasting your location without realizing it.

**4** Log on, log off: It's easy to keep login information stored in a browser for faster access and simply "X-out" once done; however, this practice makes it easy for someone to follow behind and gain access to your account.

**5** Once forgotten, twice exposed: With each new networking site or app, our information quickly becomes duplicated across multiple platforms; however, just because you moved on, doesn't mean your information did. Keep note of what sites you still use and delete old accounts you don't use such as an old dating profile, registry or blog.

**6** The guessing game: How easy would it be for someone to guess your password or answer your security questions? Compare these passwords and questions against your profile and ensure you're not unintentionally giving away the answers. It may be easy to remember your favorite

football team or superhero as a password, but how easy would it be to get that information on your personal profile and gain access to your account?

**7** Cookie monsters: Internet cookies work to tag and track computers and user behavior. This information is used by marketers to target specific groups of people and tailor advertising. It's important to only allow cookies from trusted sites and regularly clear your browser and machine using a cookie cleaner.

**8** Go phish: Online confidence scams, otherwise known as phishing, is a way for hackers or companies to gain access to personal and sensitive information such as usernames, passwords and credit card numbers. This is done through what seems to be legitimate online communications such as games, chatrooms, online payments, Wi-Fi hotspots, news links and more. The best way to avoid becoming a victim of phishing scams is to closely scrutinize the source of information, and never disclose personal information such as credit card numbers, passwords or addresses over the internet without double checking the security of the website. Again, when in doubt, keep it to yourself.

**9** All the world's a stage: It may seem harmless to keep our personal social media pages open for public viewing, however, by leaving the virtual door open to the whole world we leave ourselves vulnerable to unwanted attention. Take control of your default privacy settings and limit the viewing power of your audience to a personal VIP list.

**10** The buck starts and stops with you: Ultimately, you control what information is available about you. Don't give online scammers, predators or hackers a free ticket to your personal information. Take control, take action and help keep the Internet a safe place to socialize.

# 513th kicks off Key Spouse program

About 20 spouses filled the Blue Skies Conference Room here March 7 for the first Key Spouse meeting for the 513th Air Control Group.

Col. David Robertson, the 513th group commander, introduced himself and the commanders, first sergeants and other senior leaders in the unit.

After hearing a quick overview of the 513th, the spouses took some time to get to know one another and to decide how the program should look.

To keep in touch, the group has created a Facebook group. For more info, find the 513th Air Control Group on Facebook.



# Operation Inherent Resolve update



(Courtesy United States Air Force Facebook page.)



Technical Sergeant Dawn Hardwick

**Unit:** 513th Maintenance Squadron

**Job title:** Undershirt (Interim First Sergeant)

**Hometown:** Torrance, California

**Civilian Job?** Clinical Therapist/Social Worker

**What did you want to be when you grew up?**

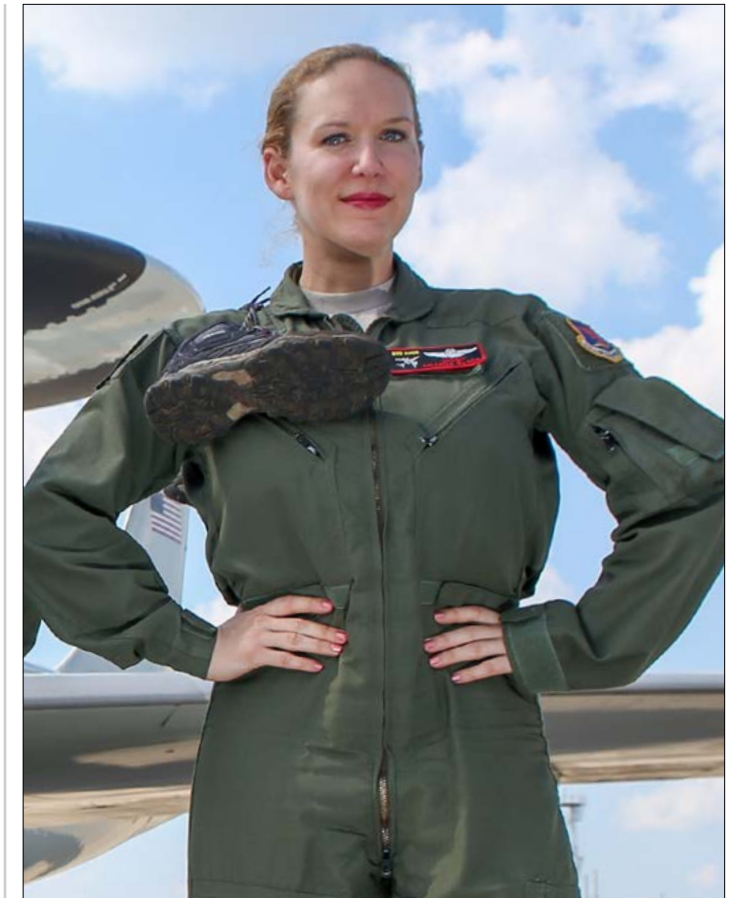
A psychiatrist.

**Little-known fact about you:** I had a concussion and a brain bleed when I was 7 from jumping over the couch onto a concrete floor. They had to drill a hole in my skull to relieve the pressure and I spent a month in the hospital.

**Favorite memory from your time in the 513th?**

Deployments...all of them. Learning new jobs, meeting new people...the work feels urgent and more profound during deployments.

**If you had superhero ability, it would be:** Invisible time travel; not wanting to cause a paradox, just revisiting lost people and memories.



Master Sergeant Amanda "Woody" Black

**Unit:** 970th Airborne Air Control Squadron

**Job title:** Airborne Radar Technician

**Hometown:** Anadarko, Oklahoma

**What did you want to be when you grew up?**

A dancer.

**Little-known fact about you:** I have a ridiculous fear of werewolves...thanks to *American Werewolf In London's* walking on the foggy moors scene.

**Favorite memory from your time in the 513th?**

Setting up a Christmas party on the plane in Curacao in 2009, complete with Christmas lights, Santa hats and a stocking for everyone.

**If you had superhero ability, it would be:** I'd have the ability to copy the superpowers of any other hero I touched. This would allow unlimited powers, provided there were other heroes in the world.

**What animal best represents you?** A magpie. They're athletic, curious and easily distracted by sparkly things. That's been a long-standing joke in my family.

# Senior 970th Air Battle Manager retires

Story and photos by  
Staff Sgt. Caleb Wanzer

After 31 years on the job, Lt. Col. Doug Lomheim is hanging up his flight suit.

Former Thumper Chuck Diven officiated the ceremony.

Lomheim initially came to Tinker AFB in 1984 with the 552nd Air Control Wing and joined the 970th in 1998.

Even in the last year of his career, Lomheim stayed busy, spending months in Saudi Arabia helping to train their

Airmen on the Airborne Warning and Control System weapons platform.

“It was great to be able to help our partner nations,” he said. “We were able to quickly upgrade their AWACS capability so they could perform missions like anti-terrorism sorties.”

Mr. Lomheim has since accepted a civilian job offer in Germany related to the AWACS world. We wish him the best!

