

April 2017

RABBIT TALES

THE 513th AIR CONTROL GROUP



The 513th's
new building
turns one

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INSIDE:

Annual award winners honored // Is your teddy bear spying on you?

RABBIT TALES

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Rabbit Tales is a production of the 513th Air Control Group Public Affairs office.

This Air Force Reserve online magazine is an authorized publication for members of the U.S. military services, family, and friends of the 513th Air Control Group and its subordinate units. Contents of and the views expressed in the Rabbit Tales newsletter are not necessarily endorsed by the U.S. Government, the Department of Defense, or the Department of the Air Force.

All photographs are Air Force photographs unless otherwise indicated.

513TH UPDATE

Upcoming events

Saturday – 1500 – MSgt Steinmann Retirement
(970th AACCS Auditorium)

Sunday – 1300 – 513 AMXS Change of Command
(Fannin Hall, Bldg. 282)

April 13 – 1300 – Civilian Wingman Event
(Tinker Bowling Center)

May 6-7 – Unit Training Assembly

All ARTs to wear uniform

Air Force Reserve Command has directed all air reserve technicians will wear military uniforms while on duty in order to facilitate cohesion between the Reserve and active-duty components.

This change affects ARTs represented by the bargaining unit and will take effect April 17.

According to Air Force policy, the Air Force has required ARTs to wear the military uniform while performing civilian duties in their military technician position since August 2007. However, here at Tinker AFB, ARTs represented by the American Federation of Government Employees Council 214 bargaining unit were required to negotiate the implementation of the uniform policy, which is now resolved.

The Air Force Material Command and AFGE C214 memorandum of agreement outlines several provisions:

- Wearing the military uniform does not subject ARTs in civilian status to the UCMJ.
- ARTs will continue to be subject to civilian rules and requirements while in civilian status.
- While in civilian status, they will be required to adhere to military uniform standard requirements, grooming standards, customs and courtesies, etc.
- Employees who do not adhere to military standards will be subject to discipline under civil service rules.
- Bargaining unit position ARTs in a civilian status will continue to be represented by the union while in uniform.

For more questions regarding this policy change, contact your supervisor or your union representative.

Promotions

Congrats to our April promotees!



SrA Joshua Vire
(513th Maintenance Squadron)

SrA Shrea Caldwell
(970th Airborne Air Control Squadron)



SSgt Corey Stephens
(970th Airborne Air Control Squadron)

Cover Photo

Construction workers weld the steel frame for the 513th Air Control Group Squadron Operations building, located just east of the current 72nd Air Base Wing Headquarters, building 460 at Tinker Air Force Base, Oklahoma. According to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, the building is nearly one-third complete and is scheduled to be ready for occupancy in mid-March 2018. (U.S. Air Force photo by 2nd Lt. Caleb Wanzer)



TINKER AIR FORCE BASE STAR SPANGLED SALUTE AIR SHOW



MAY 20-21 8AM – 5PM

COMMENTARY

“We Go Together”

By Lt. Col. James J. Matthey
Director of Operations,
970th Airborne Air Control Squadron

This isn't just a motto; it's a way of life for the multinational forces in the Republic of Korea (ROK). Having just finished up Key Resolve (KR) 2017, I can say that my appreciation for communication and teamwork reached a new level. This exercise forced us to think, plan and execute above the tactical level. KR provides the opportunity to exercise a different OPLAN and work our craft in the multinational arena. And just like personal relationships, a major key to success is understanding and communication--the basic building blocks of relationships.

Working with combined the services (ROK AF, Army, Marines) challenged us with not just the learning the capabilities and limitations of different services and weapon systems, but understanding the strategic influences and forces outside the Korean Theater of Operations.

These lessons and takeaways are universal. Every successful organization from the U.S. Military to the best corporations in the world realize that to be the best they have to understand the external and the internal forces that determine the operating environment. The best understand they may not have control of the external factors, but they do know they have control of the constraints, controls, and processes internal to the organization. The best know that to continue to be the best they have to maintain relevance, they have to adapt and grow along with the dynamics of a changing external environment.

Team, we are no different. The world isn't the same as it was 20 years ago when the 513th was activated. This world isn't the same as it was even five years ago.

We face external threats from rogue and failed states, cyber, space, terrorism, climate change and near-peer competitors. We continue to struggle with limited resources, personnel, funding and equipment. We still have a mission to do--the defense of our nation and

our families. If we are to maintain our relevancy to the nation, we will have to find innovative ways to remain competitive to ensure we stay the best.

We have three big focus areas for the remainder of this year. First, our BALTOPS/NATO exercise. Second, our CAPSTONE event. And third, Homeland Defense (HD). WE, the men and women of the 513th, are committed Citizen Airmen, deeply rooted in our communities and are fiercely dedicated professionals who chose to provide our expertise in the

continuum of service with the Air Force Reserve. We know the reserves are no longer used only as a “strategic force” and we must learn to integrate with the active component during peacetime and wartime operations.

The Homeland Defense mission is a mission set that is compatible with the Air Force Reserve Citizen Airmen culture, our vision and purpose. By providing stability and predictability for Citizen Airmen, we provide the world's best-trained AWACS aircrews and maintainers for operational missions and experienced strategic reserve force at the ready for immediate mobilizations during national emergencies.

I look forward to standing with each of you as we work together to create the world's best Homeland Defense AWACS maintainers and operators.



513th's new building nearly one-third complete

Completion date delayed
to March 2018

*Construction workers continue to assemble the steel work for the 513th Air Control Group Squadron Operations facility March 24 at Tinker Air Force Base, Oklahoma.
(U.S. Air Force photo by 2nd Lt. Caleb Wanzer)*

By 2nd Lt. Caleb Wanzer
513th Air Control Group Public Affairs

April marks one year since the ground breaking ceremony for the new 513th Air Control Group operations building at Tinker Air Force Base.

The bare field that existed during the ceremony that housed only a few trees is now a two-story metal structure complete with an elevator shaft and auditorium outlined in concrete blocks.

According to Paul Wolfgeher, the building's project engineer with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, the contractor has nearly completed the steel work phase of construction.

"Concrete floors will be the next major activity," Wolfgeher said. "Overall, the project is about 30 percent complete."

The biggest hurdle that the construction contractor has overcome was relocating a storm sewer under the building that was buried 10 feet higher than expected. Moving that drain down the required distance cost about \$200,000 and added 90

days of construction to the project.

"The current occupancy date is March 18, 2018," he said.

The 32,000 sq. ft. facility, which will house the 513th Air Control Group and its operations and support squadrons, was initiated back in 2010 but put on hold due to the proposed closure of the 513th in 2014.

"We're excited about this new facility and what it means for the future of Reserve AWACS at Tinker," said Col. David Robertson, the 513th Air Control Group Commander. "Seeing the walls go up on the building is a reminder that the 513th's future is indeed bright."

The building construction is managed through the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers military construction program, which provides engineering design and construction for a wide range of facilities in Oklahoma and northern portions of Texas, according to its website.





Steel rods lay in the foreground by the future 513th Air Control Group Squadron Operations building at Tinker Air Force Base, Oklahoma. The building is nearly one-third complete and is slated for completion in mid-March 2018. (U.S. Air Force photo by 2nd Lt. Caleb Wanzer)

2016 Annual Award winners honored at March commander's call



Airman of the Year:
SrA (now SSgt) Joseph Stinnett

SNCO of the Year:
SMSgt Jay Harris



First Sergeant of the Year:
MSgt Dawn Hardwick



NCO of the Year:
SSgt Matthew Olson

CGO of the Year:
2d Lt Caleb Wanzer



Everything is listening in the digital age

By Col. Patrick S. Ryan
Secretary of the Air Force, Office
of the Chief Information Officer

WASHINGTON (AFNS) -- Today's environment is filled with examples of technology designed to connect Airmen to the internet: smart phones, smart watches, and other common personal technology that is always capable of connection. While Airmen grow more connected to the digital world, the connections open the door to insider and external threats eager to use those vulnerabilities to subvert data, plant malicious code or simply activate that entry point for later use.

The Air Force culture has integrated an understanding of smart-phone capabilities and risks because they've been with us for more than two decades. It's common knowledge that smart phones send and receive data and can therefore be used as a tool to transmit data for espionage purposes. We think about the risks and have adapted to them for the most part by leaving those devices at home, in the car or in lock boxes as appropriate.

The issue now is the many blossoming technologies with similar "smart" capabilities that pose an equal threat, yet appear harmless.

Current Air Force policy places the majority of risk mitigation upon the owners of the work space and not as specifically on individual Airmen, but Airmen can, and do,

play a vital role with regard to protecting data.

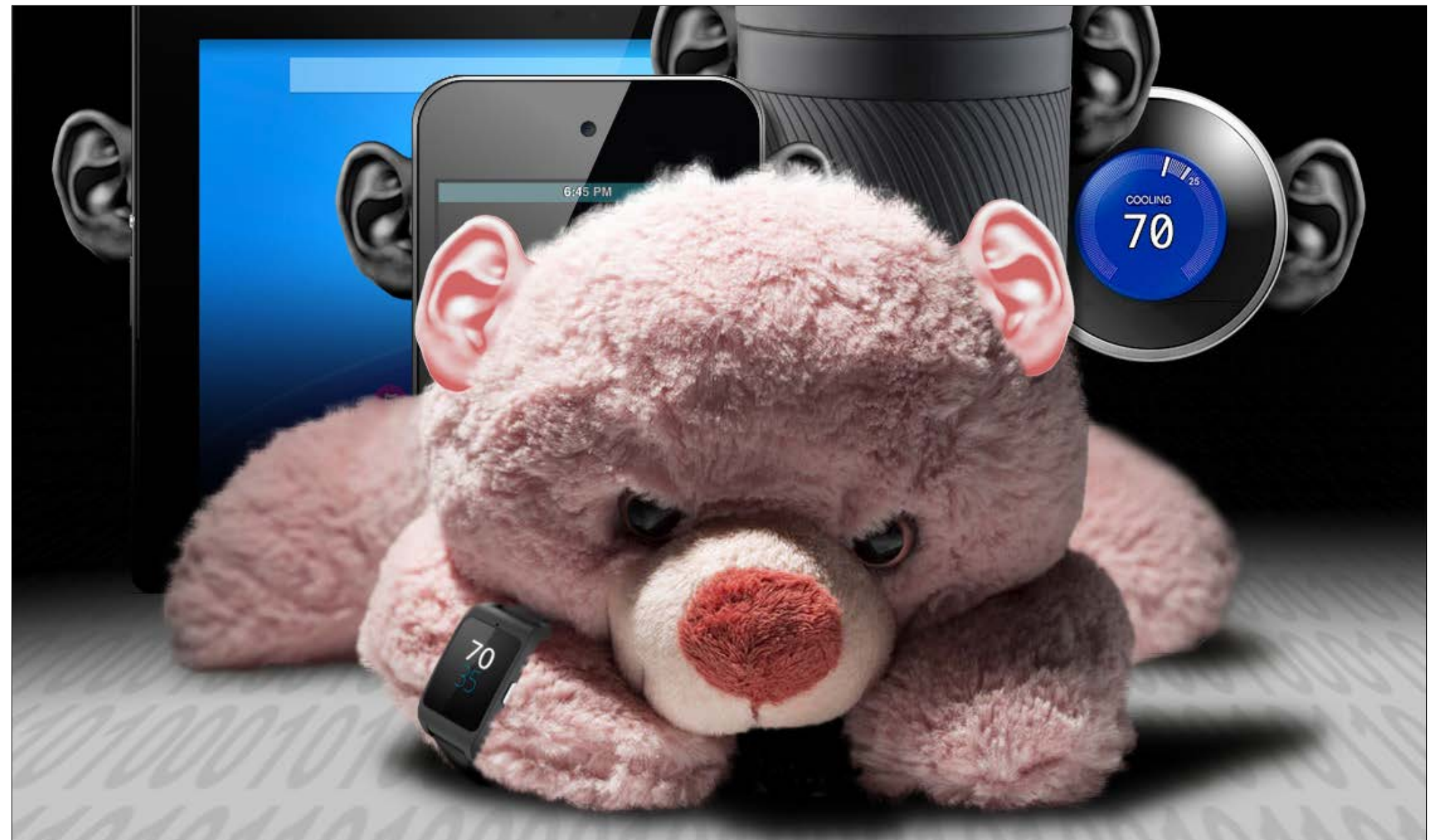
As new devices such as smart home security systems and appliances, water bottles that transmit the amount of fluid consumed, and toys that use voice recognition technology and internet connectivity to engage children, Airmen must be cautious and adapt behaviors in line with threat made possible by each new smart product.

Many times, the end goal of cyber crime isn't strategic military objectives, but instead simply identity theft for monetary gain, which is why Airmen are dual-targets and cyber hygiene is just as important at home as it is at work.

As policy continues to catch up to an increasingly agile and fast moving technological world, Airmen must serve the critical role of instituting personal cyber hygiene. They must add cyber to existing wingman traits.

Questioning the mission impact of smart devices in the workplace, researching their cybersecurity capabilities or even just disabling their Wi-Fi connectivity features will go a long way in establishing a more secure Air Force culture as well as the home front. Asking questions before purchasing smart technology will also add a huge layer of protection for Airmen and their families.

"Personal cyber hygiene is the foundation of cybersecurity culture. Airmen and their families should



take that extra moment to understand the risks involved with all things connected to the internet. Whenever possible, take steps to harden those devices through security patches or disabling of Wi-Fi when not in use," said Pete Kim, the

Air Force chief information security officer.

Ultimately, cybersecurity is the epitome of a team sport. As technology gets smarter, Airmen must heighten their awareness and efforts to protect themselves and the

Air Force. It is vitally important to be extra vigilant and recognize how more products are becoming "smart" and connected, and to know the risks those devices present both at home and work.

(U.S. Air Force Courtesy Graphic)



**THE RESERVE OFFICER
ASSOCIATION
CH. 66**

FUNDRAISER NIGHT AT
THE GARAGE IN DEL CITY

MONDAY, APRIL 17TH

FROM 6:00PM TO 9:00PM, 10% OF THE TOTAL SALES
(BEERS AND COCKTAILS INCLUDED)

WILL BE DONATED TO
THE RESERVE OFFICER ASSOCIATION CH. 66.

SO PLEASE COME OUT AND SUPPORT
THE RESERVE OFFICER ASSOCIATION CH. 66
ON MONDAY, APRIL 17TH!!