

August 2014

RAPPORT



513th takes on RIMPAC

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INSIDE

Social media requires caution with politics // Highlights from the July UTA

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.

Family day 2014

Fundraiser

Make your voice heard!
Vote for the person of your choice to spend 10 minutes in the dunk tank. Top 10 nominees must take their turn in the tank unless they pay their way out by matching the total amount paid for them.
\$1 per vote, \$5 for 6 votes, \$10 for 13 votes or \$20 for 27 votes.

To vote, contact Tech. Sgt. Nichole Tubbs (513th AMXS/MXS), Staff Sgt. Jenna Goodall (513th ACG/OSS) or 2nd Lt. Amie Inman (970th AACS).
Donations will offset costs for family day.

Family day

Family day will be from 1100 to 1600 September 6 at the 38th Cyberspace Engineering Installation Group campus located at S.E. 59th Street and Douglas Boulevard.
Chopped BBQ pork sandwiches, hot dogs and plenty of sides and drinks are on the menu. Bottomless beer is available for \$5.

Events include a prize giveaway, inflatable games, volleyball, corn hole, a dunk tank and a kid's tattoo station.

Dodgeball

Another main attraction at the family day will be an officers vs. enlisted dodgeball match in the cage of death, otherwise known as the basketball court.
Ten players are needed for each team.
Contact your unit representatives to sign up!

Cover photo

An E-3 Sentry Airborne Warning and Control System aircraft sits on the flight line July 20 at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, Hawaii. Airmen from the 513th Air Control Group deployed with the E-3 for RIMPAC 2014, the world's largest maritime exercise. (U.S. Air Force photo by Staff Sgt. Caleb Wanzer)



Upcoming events

Saturday – 0900-1400 – CMSAF Cody visit (507th/513th buildings)
Sunday – 1500 – Town Hall (552nd OG auditorium)
September 6 – 1100-1600 – Family Day (38th CEIG – S.E. 59th & Douglas Boulevard)

CMSAF visiting the 513th

Chief Master Sergeant of the Air Force James A. Cody will spend most of his Saturday visiting the Reserve units here at Tinker. Make sure to say hello if you see him around maintenance in building 230 or around the 507th!

Fit to Fight MVP's

A1C Hunter Millard Unit: 970th AACS Score: 98.9%	TSgt Carrie Hutchinson Unit: 970th AACS Score: 97.1%
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Fit to Fight hall of fame

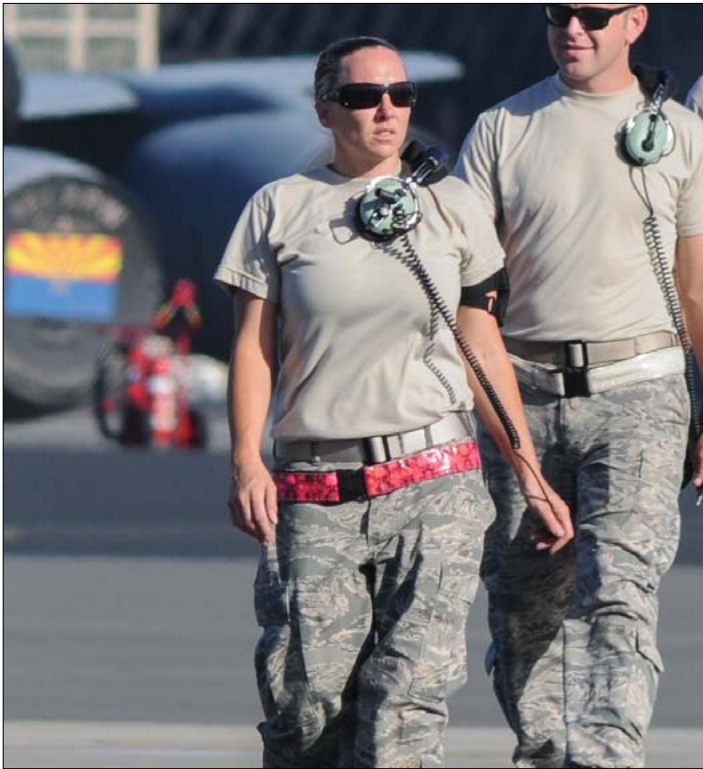


1.5-Mile Run	
Men: 7:51	Men: 8:57 TSgt Daniel McDonald
Women: 9:44	Women: 12:07 TSgt Krystal Stalder

Pushups	
Men: 110	Men: 82 SrA Robert Duncan
Women: 65	Women: 48 2nd Lt. Lily Rollins

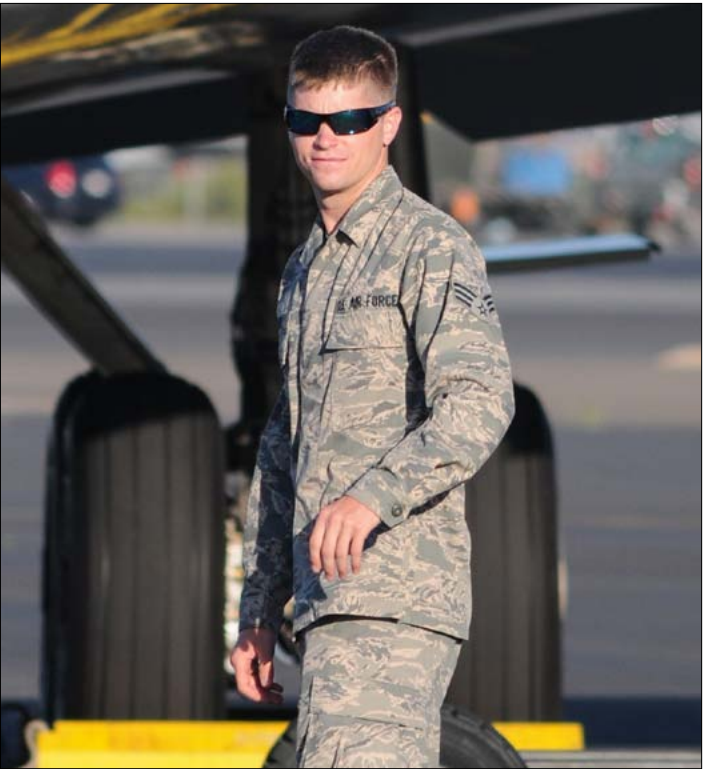
Situps	
Men: 109	Men: 92 2nd Lt. Michael Doughty
Women: 84	Women: 60 2nd Lt. Amie Deal

1-Mile Walk	
Men & Women: 9:15	Men: 11:22 MSgt Darrell Freel
	Women: 13:57 MSgt Elizabeth Staff



Tech. Sgt. Dawn Hardwick

Unit: 513th Maintenance Squadron
Job title: AWACS Surveillance Radar Technician
Hometown: Torrance, California
Done anything fun this summer? I did everything fun this summer! Finished my masters degree in social work from OU, spent eight days in Kauai, 11 days in Oahu and 17 days in Alaska.
Biggest pet peeve: Misperceptions...perception is truth and when it's inaccurate, people falsely judge you.
What did you want to be when you grew up? Psychiatrist. I've always been fascinated with the human mind and its processes.
Little known fact about you: While active duty, I played soccer for the Air Force until I tore my ACL.
Favorite memory from your time in the 513th: During a SWA deployment, our OIC Maj. Simko commandeered the fire truck and attacked our launch crew with the water hose.
If you had superhero ability, it would be: Time Travel--visiting people I've lost, reliving exquisite memories, etc.



Senior Airman Chris Ogden

Unit: 513th Operations Support Squadron
Job title: Aircrew flight equipment, also known as life support
Hometown: Fort Worth, Texas
Done anything fun this summer? Went to Hawaii for RIMPAC and started a new job at Lockheed Martin.
Favorite part of your job: Knowing that my job is the gap between life and death, and my equipment always has to be perfect.
Biggest pet peeve: I hate things being dirty and unorganized.
What did you want to be when you grew up? Professional Motocross rider.
Little known fact about you: I used to be an MMA fighter.
If you had superhero ability, it would be: The ability to fly.

Social media requires caution with political material

by Master Sgt. Christian Michael
Air Reserve Personnel Center Public Affairs

BUCKLEY AIR FORCE BASE, Colo. -- Most Americans are born with a political rattle in their hands and learn to shake it early. While U.S. culture promotes opinions and debate, the Department of Defense, U.S. Air Force and Air Reserve Personnel Center wish to remind Airmen that, while on active duty--and even for reservists who may be perceived as active military representatives--participating in politics on social media is exactly the same as it is in person: strictly prohibited.

According to a list of DoD and Air Force Instructions longer than the average Airman's arm, which includes the 2014-2015 Voting Assistance Guide, DoDI 1000.04, Federal Voting Assistance Program (FVAP) And Directive-Type Memorandum (DTM), 10-021, Guidance In Implementing Installation Voter Assistance Offices (IVAOS), DoDD 1344.13, Implementation of The National Voter Registration Act (NVRA), and U.S Office of Special Counsel, Frequently Asked Questions Regarding Social Media and the Hatch Act, dated April 4, 2012, participating in politics is prohibited for members of the DoD and Department of Homeland Security when that participation can be in-



Air Force illustration by Staff Sgt. Caleb Wanzer

terpreted as an official endorsement. For active duty Airmen, that's any Facebook share, Twitter retweet or other repost of material from a political party, partisan candidate or campaign profile to friends, or even to post on those sites in a way that would constitute political activity. Nor can Airmen suggest their friends "like" those sites. It's exactly like in-person partisan political activity--no stumping or selling a particular candidate, party or campaign. However, it doesn't mean an Airman can't offer an opinion. As in the past, when Airmen could write letters to the editor regarding particular issues, Airmen may still post their opinions on their own pages and that of non-partisan sites and organizations. However, as with the newspapers, if the writer is identified as an Airman or other representative of the U.S. armed forces (which, if you didn't know, active duty members are considered just that, by default), then it must be clear that the Airman's opinion is a personal one, and does not reflect the official stance of any government agency. For members not on active duty, such as reservists and guardsmen, political activity is permitted on social media so long as their participation in no way implies official endorsement or condemnation of any particular partisan political entity. If an Airman has any doubt as to what is or is not permitted, he or she could contact their unit judge advocate or their Federal Voting Officer to ensure any participation is legal.

Operation Tropic Thumper

513th, 970th reservists play vital part in world's largest naval exercise

Story and photos by Staff Sgt. Caleb Wanzer
513th Air Control Group Public Affairs

More than 60 reservists from the 513th Air Control Group and the 970th Airborne Air Control Squadron returned home this week after a nearly two-week mission to support the Rim of the Pacific 2014 exercise at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, Hawaii.

The 970th flew the only E-3 Sentry Airborne Warning and Control System aircraft in the exercise, according to Lt. Col. Brent Vander Pol, the 970th commander and the detachment commander for the trip.

"What we were able to accomplish was huge," Vander Pol said. "We were able to get our secure link up and running, providing all of the other allied assets with everything we could see. For us to get and stay connected to the Navy, that's a huge

win for us."

Navy communications Sailors flew on the E-3's first mission and worked directly with aircrew members to set up Link 16 capability.

"The Link 16 connectivity provides all the ships, aircraft and other coalition units the ability to exchange tactical data that enhances their situational awareness," said Navy Lt. David Hogg, a joint interface control officer with the Navy's Third Fleet, who flew on board the AWACS.

The link also allows the air operations center to see everything the AWACS radar detects in real time, he said. This allows U.S. and allied forces to share the same information securely.

Vander Pol said that the staff



Maintenance reservists from the 513th Air Control Group at Tinker Air Force Base, Oklahoma, walk off the flight line after launching an E-3 Sentry Airborne Warning and Control System aircraft July 24 at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, Hawaii. More than 60 reservists from the 513th Air Control Group traveled from Tinker to participate in the Rim of the Pacific, or RIMPAC, 2014 exercise, the world's largest maritime exercise held biannually in and around the Hawaiian Islands.

"Everyone has to play his or her part in the exercise, and it was really good to see what we could provide."
– Lt. Col. Brent Vander Pol



Twenty-two nations, more than 50 ships and submarines, about 200 aircraft and 25,000 people participated in exercise RIMPAC in and around the Hawaiian Islands and Southern California.

Senior Master Sgt. Mark Rogers, a flight engineer with the 970th Airborne Air Control Squadron, adjusts controls on July 20 during a flight in support of Rim of the Pacific 2014 near the Hawaiian Islands. This trip is the second time the 513th has flown mission in RIMPAC.

members of the air operations center were surprised by the amount of data that the E-3 provides.

“There was a huge gasp on the floor of the center when this massive amount of data they hadn’t been seeing appeared on the displays,” he said. “Everyone has to play his or her part in the exercise, and it was really good to see what we could provide.”

Even though the E-3 Sentry wasn’t the only AWACS to participate in RIMPAC, it provided the largest radar picture, Vander Pol said.

The Navy’s E-2 Hawkeye, which provides a similar AWACS capability, also flew missions in RIMPAC. The E-2 is capable of launching from an aircraft carrier but has a smaller range than the E-3 Sentry. The E-3 is the largest AWACS in the U.S. inventory.

During the exercise, 970th Airmen flew five missions, totaling more than 33 hours in the air, where they controlled more than 50 fighter and refueling aircraft.

According to Lt. Col. Wayne Polinski, the chief air battle manager for the 970th, RIMPAC involved many large-force exercises where U.S. and allied fighter aircraft split into teams and practiced combat maneuvers.

The Navy also contributed to the training, adding high-priority targets in the form of ships that needed to be destroyed in a short amount of time. This required the 970th air battle managers to work quickly with the air operations center and fighter aircraft.

“It was a pretty lean mission,” Polinski said.

The 513th Airmen weren’t the only reservists to play a part in RIMPAC 2014. Four KC-135 Stratotanker refueling aircraft and about 65 Airmen from the 507th Air Refueling Wing also at Tinker provided a vital capability to the exercise.

The 507th, along with six other refueling units from the U.S. and Canada, offloaded fuel to aircraft during the exercise, extending flight times for fighters and allowing for better training.

“We were able to work with the reservists from the 507th and had a lot of mutual support,” Vander Pol said. “At the end of the day, it was just a bunch of guys from Oklahoma helping each other out.”

For the 513th, the mission to RIMPAC was much more than just a routine training opportunity.

“Everyone in the unit realized that this trip was a chance for us to shine and to tell the story of the 513th,” Vander Pol said. “We certainly got the attention of our joint and allied partners with what we were doing.”

Twenty-two nations, more than 50 ships and submarines, about 200 aircraft and 25,000 personnel participated in exercise RIMPAC in and around the Hawaiian Islands and Southern California.

The world’s largest international maritime exercise, RIMPAC provides a unique training opportunity that helps participants foster and sustain the cooperative relationships that are critical to ensuring the safety of sea lanes and security on the world’s oceans. RIMPAC 2014 is the 24th exercise in the series that began in 1971.



Flight line heats up at Hickam

Senior Airman Marcus Robello, a crew chief with the 513th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron at Tinker Air Force Base, clears the area in front of an E-3 Sentry Airborne Warning and Control System aircraft July 24 at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, Hawaii. (Air Force photo by Staff Sgt. Caleb Wanzer)

Highlights from the July UTA

Master Sgt. Randy Taylor hands a cold sports drink to Master Sgt. Cameron Stern, a guidance and control technician with the 513th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron, July 12 on the flight line at Tinker Air Force Base.

Stern and other reservists from the guidance and control shop spent most of their Saturday repairing an E-3 Sentry out on the flight line in the heat and humidity of an Oklahoma summer.

Taylor and Master Sgt. Thomas Carter helped to relieve the heat by handing out cold water and drinks to maintainers working outside.



Master Sgt. Malachi Sturlin and Staff Sgt. David Martin, reservists with the 970th Airborne Air Control Squadron, help a fellow Airmen into the raft during water survival training July 13 at White Water Bay theme park in Oklahoma City.

The park allows the reservists to train for emergencies in their wave pool in the morning hours before it opens, which provides more realistic training.

Aircrew members are required to complete both academic and practical training every three years to retain vital survival skills.

Have photos or a story you want to share with the unit? Message us on Facebook at facebook.com/513thAirControlGroup or email 513ACG.PublicAffairs@us.af.mil.