

February 2017

RABBIT TALES

THE OFFICIAL MAGAZINE OF THE 513TH AIR CONTROL GROUP



**SPAM 01 returns to
the Hawaiian Islands,
rocks Sentry Aloha 17-01**

INSIDE:

Q&A with the new OSS commander // New flight suit policy

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

| | |
|--|----|
| 513th Update | 3 |
| Q&A with the 513th OSS Commander | 4 |
| Fit to Fight MVPs | 5 |
| SPAM 01 returns to the Hawaiian Islands | 6 |
| Trump nominates new AF Secretary | 12 |
| AF relaxes policy on flight suit sleeves | 13 |



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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.

Upcoming events

February 5 – 1200 – FBI Guest Speaker and Luncheon
(POC: Lt. Col. Gia Wilson-Mackey)

February 5 – 1400 – 513th OSS Change of Command
(970th AACs Auditorium)

March 4 - 5 – Unit Training Assembly

Recruiter contact info



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Cover Photo

An E-3 Sentry Airborne Warning and Control System aircraft flown by reservists from the 513th Air Control Group taxis for its last of nine missions supporting Sentry Aloha 17-01, a primarily Air National Guard and Reserve exercise hosted by Hawaii's 154th Wing at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, Hawaii. (U.S. Air Force photo by 2nd Lt. Caleb Wanzer)



Promotions

Congrats to February's promotees!



SrA Christon Harris
(513th Operations Support Squadron)



TSgt Ryan Clary
(513th Operations Support Squadron)

TSgt Nathan Seay
(513th Maintenance Squadron)



MSgt Gary Cartwright
(513th Maintenance Squadron)

MSgt Daniel McDonald
(513th Maintenance Squadron)

MSgt Tricia Sandoval
(970th Airborne Air Control Squadron)

Did You Know?

February is not only Black History Month, it's also Canada's eco-system awareness month, where the country focuses on enjoying nature in ways like swimming and exploring nature. For more information on this month's emphasis on our environment, visit the [U.S. Park Service](#) or the [Canadian Park Service](#).

Q&A

Lt. Col. Scott "Spud" Tillman
Commander, 513 OSS

By Staff Sgt. Giovanna LaMaestra
513th Air Control Group Public Affairs

Q: How long have you been with this unit?

A: I have been in the 513th for 14 years.

Q: What plans or ideas do you have for the unit?

A: I want to continue the great work that Lt. Col. Cress has done for the unit.

Q: What is your overall vision for the OSS?

A: The short-term vision is to prepare for the Capstone Inspection this November. The long-term vision is to make sure that the OSS is supporting the 513th ACG as mission requirements change in the future.

Q: Does this command have any differences from your last unit?

A: I came from the 970th, which is a part of the 513th family, so most everything is the same.

Q: What are you looking forward to most in this job?

A: Taking care of the people and helping them achieve their goals in the reserves.



Q: How much time do you have to accomplish any goals you have while here?

A: I serve at the wish of the 513th Group Commander so he/she will decide when my time is finished as commander.

Q: What challenges do you foresee in the coming future that may affect our unit?

A: The reserves are always changing and the constant question is: "What have you done for me lately?" As a result of that question, the reserves

have become more like active duty, which might require more time for the traditional reservist to spend away from their job or family.

Q: As this is your first command, what personal challenges does taking this job give you?

A: It adds another hat for me to wear longer than it has been over the last 14 years in the group. The challenge will be for it not to impact the amount of time I spend with my family.

Fit to Fight MVPs – January & February

SrA Hunter Millard
Unit: 970 AACs
Score: 97.3%



Maj Andromeda Augustino
Unit: 970 AACs
Score: 97.7%



TSgt James Porter
Unit: 513 AMXS
Score: 93%



1Lt Colby Alexander
Unit: 970 AACs
Score: 96.1%

January Fit to Fight Hall of Fame

February Fit to Fight Hall of Fame



513th ACG



Team Tinker

513th ACG



1.5-Mile Run

Men:
SrA Hunter Millard **10:29**
Women:
SSgt Courtney Redmond **13:24**

Pushups

Men:
SrA Hunter Millard **72**
Women:
SSgt Courtney Redmond **30**

Situps

Men:
SSgt Hunter Millard **58**
Women:
SSgt Courtney Redmond **45**

Record Highs

Men: **7:51**
Women: **9:44**

Men: **110**
Women: **65**

Men: **109**
Women: **84**

1.5-Mile Run

Men:
Lt Colby Alexander **10:42**
Women:
Maj Andromeda Augustino **14:11**

Pushups

Men:
TSgt Gabriel Bonnett **60**
Women:
Maj Andromeda Augustino **40**

Situps

Men:
TSgt Gabriel Bonnett **60**
Women:
1Lt Jennifer Cress **42**

SPAM 01 returns to the Hawaiian Islands

513th owns the skies for Hawaiian Air National Guard's Sentry Aloha

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

Reservists from the 513th Air Control Group finished their last day of Sentry Aloha 17-01 on Feb. 3 at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, Hawaii, marking a full two weeks of successful missions in one of the best training events in the unit's history. The Sentry Aloha exercise was hosted by the Hawaiian Air National Guard's 154th Wing and involved multiple fighter, refueling and cargo aircraft primarily from Air Force Reserve and Air National Guard units. "It's been absolutely amazing," said Lt. Col. David Cavazos, the Sentry Aloha Detachment Commander. "We've controlled about 325 aircraft and have trained in every facet of capability that we need to be proficient in for mission execution." The daily missions have included simulated offensive and defensive scenarios involving Air Force and Navy fighter aircraft, involving as many as 26 airplanes at a time. "For the 513th, Sentry Aloha of-

fered a higher level of training than possible in the continental United States," he said. The reservists deployed to Hickam Field and flew 100 percent of the missions planned, despite encountering multiple maintenance issues with the E-3 Sentry. "It's vital for us to get every sortie that we can," Cavazos said. "Every mission set is a rare opportunity, and we want to take full advantage of each one. Hats off to our reserve maintainers; their experience and dedication is what got this jet ready and kept it flying." Tech. Sgt. Isaac Van Cleave, a radar specialist assigned to the 513th Maintenance Squadron, was one of the maintenance Airmen ensuring the E-3 Sentry was ready for flight each day. "One night we were out working on the jet until 2 a.m.," Van Cleave said. "We always make sure we have enough people to fix the issues, but we're out there until the job is done." The maintenance challenges that came with Sentry Aloha gave Van Cleave, a traditional reservist, a

change to refresh his troubleshooting skills. "I've been able to break some of the rust off," he said. "Radar is a big system, so there's a lot of stuff we don't see too often. It's a good time to dig back into the technical orders, get my hands dirty with the jet and get reacquainted."

The 513th also used Sentry Aloha as a test bed for new software, hardware and communications capabilities for the AWACS platform. "We validated a \$1.8 million E-3 software upgrade during the exercise and identified errors and points for improvement," said Maj. Anne Ridlon, the chief of tactics for the

513th Operations Support Squadron. "We also coordinated efforts with Navy EA-18G Growlers, which gave us some unmatched jamming training in an environment which is rarely seen in other training." During the exercise, the AWACS reservists flew nine missions with a total of 46 hours in the air.

An E-3 Sentry Airborne Warning and Control System aircraft climbs shortly after taking off Feb. 3 from Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, Hawaii. Reservists from the 970th Airborne Air Control Squadron and 513th Operations Support Squadron flew all nine mission scheduled for Sentry Aloha 17-01. (U.S. Air Force photo by 2nd Lt. Caleb Wanzer)





AFE with an attitude

Airman 1st Class Kobe Kiesel (left) and Staff Sgt. Walter Bolles (right), aircrew flight equipment specialists assigned to the 513th Operations Support Squadron, wait for an E-3 Sentry aircraft to land on Jan. 25 at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, Hawaii. Reservists from the 513th Air Control Group deployed to the Hawaiian Islands to provide command and control for Sentry Aloha 17-01, a primarily Reserve and Air National Guard exercise that involves more than 40 aircraft and 1,000 personnel. (U.S. Air Force photo by 2nd Lt. Caleb Wanzer)



Master Sgt. Angela Leddy, a first sergeant assigned to the 513th Maintenance Squadron, rolls up rope on the flight line Jan. 25 at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, Hawaii.

Reservists assigned to the 513th Air Control Group move a stand in place Jan. 25 at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, Hawaii, after an E-3 Sentry returned from a mission in support of Sentry Aloha.



Col. Steven England, the 513th Air Control Group Deputy Commander, gives the Hawaiian greeting sign after returning from a mission on Jan. 25 at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, Hawaii.

Maj. Johnny Villena poses with a recent member of the 154th Wing after completing an enlistment on board an E-3 Sentry.



Master Sgt. Angela Leddy, Tech. Sgt. Andrew Mistowski and Master Sgt. Darrell Freel, reservists assigned to the 513th Air Control Group, review a technical order on the flight line Jan. 25 at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, Hawaii.

Senior Master Sgt. Alphonzo Glover, an inspection superintendent for the 513th Air Control Group, rides in a bobtail on Jan. 25 on the flight line at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, Hawaii.



Heather Wilson nominated by White House for Secretary of the Air Force



(Photo credit: Getty Images / Paul Richards, 2006)

Secretary of the Air Force Public Affairs

WASHINGTON (AFNS) -- The White House announced last month that President Donald Trump intends to nominate former New Mexico Congresswoman and Air Force Academy grad Heather Wilson to be the next Air Force secretary.

If confirmed, Wilson will replace former Air Force Secretary Deborah Lee James to become the first Academy graduate to serve as secretary. "Her distinguished military service, high level of knowledge, and success in so many different fields gives

me great confidence that she will lead our nation's Air Force with the greatest competence and integrity," Trump said in a Jan. 23 news release. Wilson is from Keene, New Hampshire. She graduated from the Academy in 1982 magna cum laude and became a Rhodes Scholar at Oxford University, England.

During her Air Force career, Wilson was a political adviser to the U.S. Air Force in England, and a NATO defense planning officer. After leaving the Air Force in 1987, she became a member of the National Security Council Staff at the White House under President George H.W. Bush.

"America and our vital national interests continue to be threatened," Wilson said in the White House release. "I will do my best, working with our men and women in the military, to strengthen American air and space power to keep the country safe."

Since 2013, Wilson has been the president of the South Dakota School of Mines and Technology in Rapid City, South Dakota.

Acting Secretary of the Air Force Lisa Disbrow will head the service until the Senate confirmation process for a new secretary of the Air Force is complete.

Air Force relaxes policy on flight suit sleeves



Air battle managers assigned to the 970th AACS discuss mission details July 23 on board an E-3 Sentry prior to a sortie at Rim of the Pacific 2016. This photo, formerly hidden in the archives due to improper uniform wear, may now be published due to the change in flight duty uniform sleeve regulations. (U.S. Air Force Photo by 2nd Lt. Caleb Wanzer)

By 2nd Lt. Caleb Wanzer

513th Air Control Group Public Affairs

Airmen wearing the flight duty uniform are now allowed to roll or pull up their sleeves while not performing in-flight duties, due to a recent memorandum written by the Air Force's deputy chief of operations, Lt. Gen. Mark Nowland.

In the Jan. 23 memo, Nowland directed an immediate change to the flight duty uniform and desert flight duty uniform. The text of the memorandum reads:

"I have approved the following change to FDU/DFDU wear effective immediately. Personnel will

have sleeves rolled down to the wrist when performing aircrew duties in-flight. Sleeves may be rolled under or pulled up (using Velcro to hold in place), the sleeves will end at, or within 1 inch of, the natural bend of the elbow, when the wearer's arms are hanging naturally at their side.

An AF Form 847, Recommendation for Change of Publication, will be forwarded to HQ USAF/A1 to formally change Paragraph 8.3.7 of AFI 36-2903, Dress and Personal Appearance of Air Force Personnel."

According to the Military Times,

the memo was first posted on the unofficial Air Force amn/nco/snco Facebook page on Saturday, and the Air Force confirmed Nowland did send the memo.

"The flight suit sleeve policy was updated to align with the Airman Battle Uniform coat (shirt) wear policy," Air Force spokeswoman Ann Stefanek said in an email.

Air Force spokesman Maj. Bryan Lewis said that airmen were already allowed to roll their flight suit sleeves under once, and that the pulling up of sleeves was the major change.