

RABBIT TALES



THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE 513TH AIR CONTROL GROUP

NEVER FORGET
20TH ANNIVERSARY
OF 9/11

SEPTEMBER 2021

MISSION: TO PROVIDE COMBAT-READY CITIZEN
AIRMEN TO GENERATE AND EMPLOY
AWACS ANYWHERE, ANYTIME



VISION: WE TAKE CARE OF OUR FAMILY OF
CITIZEN AIRMEN WHILE KEEPING WATCH OVER
AMERICA!

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Officers at Tinker Air Force Base remember responding to 9/11 attacks

By Shelby Cashman KOCO News



Tinker Air Force Base was a hub of activity on Sept. 11, 2001, with the Oklahoma base's planes making sure nothing was flying above the U.S. that wasn't supposed to be there.

KOCO 5 spoke with three Air Force officers who were in the air and on the ground that fateful day.

"What? Like, 'That's dumb. That thing's so big. How do you not miss that thing, right?' And we thought about it for a minute, and he turned on the TV and we watched the second plane hit. And it was like instantly the entire room just changed," Col. Keven Coyle, with the 552nd Air Control Wing, said. "And he looked at me and goes, 'You need to go get your 72-hour bag right now.'"

"So, just like everyone else, the light bulb clicks," retired AWACS Officer Andrew Bruce said. "The unimaginable had happened at that point. But we didn't know what that all meant, either. Just like everyone else, you're trying to figure it out."

Forced immediately into action, the thousands of people working at Tinker Air Force Base 20 years ago will never forget the moments they knew their country needed them. That included scrambling to get into place before the base was inevitably locked down.

"I got pulled over, and I, essentially, I just said, 'Hey, officer, I know I'm going fast. Gather my data and send me a ticket, but I got to get back to the base.' And he goes, 'Whoa. What's going on?' And I go, 'I don't know if you heard the news at all.' And he goes, 'No.' And he got back on the radio and within about two minutes he goes, 'Just follow me.' And he escorted me back to the base very fast," Coyle said.

They were then sent on missions they'd never flown before, including patrolling for hijacked aircraft.

"Launch and look over what's going on in the western half of the United States because we don't know what else is going to happen and if any-

thing else is going to happen. As it turns out, nothing else happened over there. But it was very, very eerie," Bruce said. "You'll launch in the United States nowadays, and you got that nice radar dome on top, and you can see thousands of dots. And you know, there's airliners everywhere. And we launched that day, and it was a blank screen except for just a couple of handful of dots, and you knew exactly who these, every one of them was."

"One thing I do remember he goes, 'If you have any reservations firing on civilian airliners, then speak up now. That's not going to be held against you, but we need to know,'" said Col. Jim Matthey, with the 513th Air Control Group. "Man, silence came across the room because the gravity of the situation really hit, because we never thought that we actually have to fire on United States aircraft."

And, 20 years later, the moments live with them.

"In this unit, I think we still have four members that were around on that day serving. And you bring up 9/11, and, automatically, you know, it kicks in," Matthey said. "You know exactly where you were. You can feel it. You can taste it. You can sense everything that was going on. Those deployments, their hardships. But I tell you what, you made some amazing relationships."

And the sense they were there when their country needed them.

"It was nice to have the stability of knowing what I was doing was of benefit, but it was also kind of refreshing to know that we were needed. I think that's kind of the key. In any situation, people want to know that they're valued and needed," Coyle said. "And that day, for sure, we felt that we were valued and needed as an Air Force. And you can't buy that. It was great."

After that memorable, surreal day, many men and women from Tinker Air Force Base were deployed to fight overseas, spending years more serving their country.

Watch Video: <https://www.koco.com/article/officers-at-tinker-air-force-base-remember-responding-to-911-attacks/37492711>

DAF announces mandatory COVID vaccine implementation guidelines for Airmen, Guardians

Secretary of the Air Force Public Affairs

WASHINGTON (AFNS) --

Secretary of the Air Force Frank Kendall directed the COVID-19 vaccine implementation guidelines for Department of the Air Force total force military members Sept. 3, in accordance with the Secretary of Defense mandate last month.

The service implementation plan requires Airmen and Guardians to be fully vaccinated against COVID-19 by the following dates, unless seeking an exemption:

- Nov. 2 – Active Duty personnel
- Dec. 2 – Air National Guard and Air Force Reserve personnel

Vaccinations will help ensure service members' health and safety while preserving the department's readiness and ability to execute worldwide air and space forces missions, according to department leaders.

“We are taking an aggressive approach to protect our service members, their families and their communities from COVID-19 and the highly transmissible Delta variant,” said Under Secretary of the Air Force Gina Ortiz Jones. “As members of the nation's Armed Forces, our Airmen and Guardians must be able to respond to situations around the globe—being fully vaccinated will help us safely meet the readiness requirements that our national security depends on.”

Mandatory vaccination through a military provider will initially only include the Pfizer-BioNTech mRNA COVID-19[®] vaccine (widely referred to as “Comirnaty[®]” upon receipt of U.S. Food and Drug Administration approval), which is currently the only vaccine approved by the FDA. Airmen and Guardians may continue to volunteer to receive the COVID-19 vaccines approved under Emergency Use Authorization, including Moderna, Janssen and AstraZeneca, from both military and civilian providers.

Service members are considered fully vaccinated two weeks after completing the second dose of a two-dose COVID-19 vaccine, or two weeks after receiving a single dose of a one-dose vaccine. This includes one or two-dose

options authorized under EUA or full FDA approval.

Airmen and Guardians who have proof of vaccination documented in their medical records per this definition will be considered as meeting the vaccination requirement.

Prior to receiving the COVID-19 vaccine, service members have access to healthcare providers and chaplains to address questions or concerns with COVID-19 vaccination. Additionally, commanders must consult with their servicing Staff Judge Advocate for additional guidance on vaccination non-compliance.



Exemptions

Service members have the option to apply for medical or administrative exemption, including religious accommodations. The process for obtaining exemptions for all mandatory vaccinations is provided in AFI 48-110_IP, Immunizations and Chemoprophylaxis for the Prevention of Infectious Diseases, for medical exemptions, and DAFI 52-201, Religious Freedom in the Department of the Air Force, for religious accommodations. No exemptions from the vaccine will be approved solely because Airmen and Guardians have an approved retirement or separation date.

Vaccination non-compliance

Any refusal to receive the COVID-19 vaccine, absent an approved exemption or accommodation, may be punishable under the Uniform Code of Military Justice (UCMJ). Military commanders retain the full range of disciplinary options available to them under the UCMJ.

August Promotions

**Airman Zachary Johnson,
970th AACCS**



STEP Promotees

Senior Master Sgt. Rob Doty

Master Sgt. Curt Mauller



CURRENT FUNDS

Balance

\$2,775

Beer & Briefing

“Beer and Briefing” will be the new academic format for Intel Briefings on UTA’s going forward. As the name indicates, beer will be provided to those in attendance. The next two UTA’s will also include a brief AIT test as well as an Intel Feedback Form to help us get better in the future. Come ready to drink and to learn!

In the Spotlight



Staff Sgt. Ebony Littlefield

Unit: 513th OSS

Job title: Aviation Resource Management

Hometown: Brooklyn, NY

Civilian job: Air Reserve Technician

Place you'd like to visit: South Africa

Best place I've visited: Holland

Favorite part of your job: Knowing I am and integral part of our 513th ACG Aircrew getting the AFRC Mission done.

Biggest pet peeve: Being Micromanaged

Little known fact about you: I am both West Indian and Central American. My great grandfather left Barbados to help build the Panama Canal.

Favorite memory from your time in the 513th: Being able to attend The Order of the Sword Ceremony at Robbins AFB for Lt Gen James Jackson.

Holiday Spirit Steak Supper

The 23rd Annual Operation Holiday Spirit (OHS) steak dinner will be held at the Del City American Legion on 3 Dec, 18:00- 22:00.

Due to COVID-19, only a limited number of tickets will be sold.

There WON'T be a chicken or veggie plate option this year. "BEEF - it's what's for dinner!"

This steak dinner is always a big success and makes a lot of money for our own reserve and guard families. Through donations, auctions and more, the proceeds go directly to those that need. The event flyer is attached.

OHS Background:

Operation Holiday Spirit was created in 1999 to assist some of the most deserving military families during the holiday season. This program takes nominations from fellow Reservists and Guardsmen, friends and associates of families who are known to be in need of assistance. These nominations are submitted by the leaders of the servicemen's units to a review committee.

Nominees are vetted as to the level of need and to ensure assistance is for many years Oklahoma Reservists and Guardsmen have been hit particularly hard. Many of these families join the Reserves and Guard to earn extra income, but with frequent deployments and unforeseen family situations they actually find their income considerably reduced.

That hardship, coupled with the absence of their loved ones, makes for a pretty tough time for families, particularly during the holiday season. OHS is a local organization, helping local families. Ways you can help OHS (be a blessing to someone else):

- * Cash Donations to OHS
- * Attendance at the Annual Steak Supper and auction
- * Donating Goods that can be sold at the Silent or Live Auction, items small or large all help
- * Volunteering (TBD)

For more information or purchase paper tickets please contact the following:

Takesha Williams, Angi Dail, Joe Brown, Joe Wade, Ralph Hawkins, Dan Gibb, Larry DeSalle or Michelle Bonilla

**22nd ANNUAL
HOLIDAY SPIRIT
STEAK SUPPER**
Friday December 3rd, 2021
American Legion/VFW Post - 5000 SE 24th Street - Del City OK
Time: 6:00 to 10:00 PM
Price \$45.00 * * LIMITED TO 400 TICKETS/SEATS * *
Menu: Wheeler's Meat Market rib eye steak served
with baked potato, veggies, salad, roll and cheesecake.
Beverages: Cash bar provided (no outside beverages)
TICKETS:
Takesha Williams, Angi Dail, Joe Brown
Joe Wade, Ralph Hawkins, Dan Gibb
Larry DeSalle, Michelle Bonilla
Visit holidayspirit.org for more information or to purchase tickets on-line



Sept
2021

513 ACG Training Update

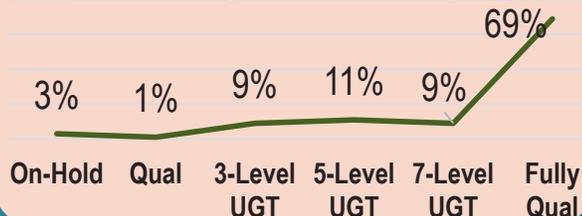
September Calendar of Events

22nd 18:00 – Supervisor-Specific AFTC
Virtual - ZOOM

FY22 PME Seats Released

- ✓ This is the best time of year to submit in-residence PME requests.
- ✓ Members need to accomplish an AF Form 101 (Military School Request) or SF 182 (Civilian School Request) with all signatures. Members will then submit completed form with ARCNet Readiness Report and Fit-to-Fight Tracker to Unit Training Manager (UTM).

Training Percentages



Training System Updates

There are a lot of changes occurring with the various training systems. Below is a stop-light chart of all 2021 completed, in-work, and projected updates.

Old System New System Project. Complete

● ADLS * myLearning TBD

*myLearning updates in-work – reporting is inoperable & courses aren't always updating.
Initial suspense date: Jul 21*

● SurvPro Inoperable TBD

● Blackboard myLearning August 2021

UTMs need to enroll all members currently enrolled in CDCs in myLearning CDCs

● E-Exam myLearning October 2021

● CDSAR myLearning October 2021

● TBA myLearning March 2022

Initial suspense date: Jan 22

September UTM Assistance

- ✓ TSgt Victor Foster, victor.foster.1@us.af.mil, is available to provide support to MX while TSgt Greene is attending Tech School.
- ✓ TSgt Michael Smith, michael.smith.581@us.af.mil is available in September to provide support across the entire ACG.
- ✓ TSgt Nicole Tubbs, 513 ACG, and MSgt Elizabeth Staff, 513 OSS are available on UTA.



Calling all artists: *Send in your best design by Oct. 1 for a chance to have your artwork featured!*

FY22 UTA Schedule

- 2-3 Oct 21
- 6-7 Nov 21
- 4-5 Dec 21
- 8-9 Jan 22
- 5-6 Feb 22
- 5-6 Mar 22
- 2-3 Apr 22
- 30 Apr-1 May 22
- 4-5 Jun 22
- 9-10 Jul 22
- 6-7 Aug 22
- 10-11 Sep 22

TAIL FLASH COMPETITION

MUST BE 17" TALL
12"8" WIDE

SUBMISSIONS ARE DUE BY OCTOBER 1ST

PLEASE EMAIL DESIGNS TO CHAD.DIXON@US.AF.MIL

UPDATE "AT HOC"

TELEWORK FORM

SEPTEMBER UTA SCHEDULE

Status Reports



ANCILLARY CBTS

- ACG
- AMXS
- MXS
- AACS
- OSS

EPR/OPR STATUS

UNPAID ORDERS AND VOUCHERS

- UNPAID ORDERS
- UNPAID VOUCHERS
- UNPAID RUTAs
- UNPAID TP_s
- UNPAID RMP_s

How Do I?

Go to vMPF- <https://w45.afpc.randolph.af.mil/AFPCSecureNet40/PKI/Main-Menu1.aspx>

Click vMPF

Verify your E-mail & Phone #

(On the left hand side) Click Record Review/Update

Click Individual to update personal info

Review your record for any discrepancies.

Review/Update my vMPF Records?

Certify my SGLI?

GO TO: <https://www.dmdc.osd.mil/milconnect>

LOGIN with your CAC

CLICK on BENEFITS tab

From Scroll down menu CLICK on LIFE INSURANCE (SOES)

When Life Insurance (SOES) Page will open click CONTINUE and answer question on each page.

When finished, you will receive an e-mail with the attachment of your new SGLI.

Call 405-582-1558 or 405-734-5476

Email :513acg.admin@us.af.mil

Create a ticket : CSS Ticketing System

Contact my CSS?

Check your Awards and Decs

Are your decorations up to date? Go to vMPF to check your awards & decorations. If you are missing something, let the CSS know. Not sure what you should have? **Verify with PRDA for decorations & the chart below for awards based on time in service.**

Award	Requirement	Remarks
AF BMT	Completion of AF BMT	
National Defense	See AFI 36-2803	
GWOT-E	See AFI 36-2803	
GWOT-S	See AFI 36-2803	
Air Force Longevity Service Award	4 years Sat Svc any branch	
Air Reserve Forces Meritorious Service Medal	3 continuous years in ANG or AFR	
Armed Forces Reserve Medal (no M)	10 years reserve service any branch	First award equals 1 device.
Armed Forces Reserve Medal w/M	Deployment under 12301(a), 12304, 12406, or title 10 (see	First award equals 0 devices.
NCO PME Ribbon	In-residence completion of ALS, NCOA, SNCOA, Chief's Leadership Course	Effective 1 Aug 2014, correspondence/distance learning counts for this award.
Nuclear Deterrence Operations Service Medal	All 507/513 members	
AF Pistol Expert	AF522 showing Expert	
AF Rifle Expert	AF522 showing Expert	

Update AFPAAS



AFPAAS

Air Force Personnel Accountability and Assessment System

How does AFPAAS Work?



~ What is AFPAAS? ~
~ Why is AFPAAS needed? ~
~ Who can use AFPAAS? ~

AFPAAS is the **Air Force Personnel Accountability and Assessment System**. It is a website designed to help Air Force personnel and their families directly affected by natural and man-made disasters.

AFPAAS provides a tool to report your status, current location, update emergency contact information and request assistance. AFPAAS helps the Air Force leadership to account for personnel and to make decisions that support you and your family.

AFPAAS is available to all Air Force affiliated personnel and their family members. This includes Active Duty, Select Reserve, DAF and NAF Civilians, AF Contractors (OCONUS), and their family members, including personnel on temporary duty status, on leave or on a pass in the affected area.

Air Force Personnel Readiness Cell 1-800-435-9941
AFPAAS Help Desk 1-866-946-9183

Complete the following eight basic steps:

Step 1: Logon to AFPAAS

Step 2: Click the "Airmen/Civilians" [Click Here](#) button.

Step 3: Select Login Method

Step 4: Verify and update your information

Step 5: Review the survey introduction

Step 6: Complete the assessment survey

Step 7: Review the confirmation window

Step 8: Print, edit or view your entries

Click here:
<https://afpaas.af.mil/>