

RABBIT TALES



THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE 513TH AIR CONTROL GROUP

**513th participates in Guam's Exercise
Valiant Shield alongside Okies and
Utah KC-135 crews**

Air Force Reserve welcomes new commander

**Total Force Integration:
Proving we are stronger together**

AUGUST 2022

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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On the Cover: 1st Lt. Michael Lopez, air battle manager with the 970th Airborne Air Control Squadron, evaluates the ability of the KC-135 to host a battle management team during exercise Valiant Shield June 14, 2022, at Andersen Air Force Base, Guam. (U.S. Air Force photo by Master Sgt. Lauren Kelly)

Commander's Commentary

Col. James Matthey, 513th Air Control Group commander

My fellow warfighters,

Welcome back to our August UTA. In case you missed it, our CAFR, Lt Gen Scobee, retired this past Wednesday. I had the privilege of working directly for the boss, and I can attest there has not been a finer American leading AFRC. I also attended our new CAFR's Change of Command and Wing Commanders' call. I can tell you that we've got another great CAFR in the seat. Lt Gen

Healy is process and detailed oriented. His commander's intent is twofold: 1) Be ready now, and 2) Transform for the future.

The last couple of years has been the most challenging I've seen in my 29 years in the Air Force. First, Hurricane Michael wiped Tyndall off the face of the earth, affecting hundreds of fellow reservists; they are still feeling the impact today. Then, we got hit by a pandemic and budget

constraints which turned out to be more severe than the Budget Control Act in 2011. We have been through nasty turbulence and lost some altitude; however, we've made adjustments, reformed multiple areas in AFRC, and now we're gaining speed and recovering altitude. But don't get me wrong, we still have some significant headwinds to face.

The Air Force and Air Force Reserve are not the force we need to defeat peer-to-peer threats. In addition, each budget cycle seems to induce additional challenges, and we must adapt (or lose). In the coming years, we will endure multiple divestitures of legacy weapon systems, add new missions, and see shifts across our current mission. And unfortunately, continuing resolutions and rebalancing RPA and O&M are part of the financial equation.

Fortunately, your command team is up to the task. We've had to adjust and learn more about FM than any wing, squadron commander, or SEL in the past. We've leaned into connecting our tactical tasks to the dollars we're given to execute to provide you with the most stability and predictability possible.

Here's the bottom line: we must maintain essential readiness. All our Airmen must actively pursue personal and mission readiness. We will reform the 513th to ensure we continue to provide the best-trained combat capability to our combatant commanders. Very soon, we will be publishing our Group and Squadron Task Orders. These Task Orders are not optional, they are not suggestions, and we will carry them out to the letter.

Ladies and gentlemen, this is what we're about, fighting our nation's wars, killing our enemies, preserving our way of life and our interests around the globe. It is my extreme honor to stand shoulder to shoulder with you as we get after it. So, let's continue to "Push it UP!"



Lt. Gen. John Healy accepts the Air Force Reserve Command guidon from Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. CQ Brown, Jr. during a change of command ceremony at Robins Air Force Base, Georgia, Aug. 3, 2022. AFRC's mission is to provide combat-ready forces to fly, fight, and win. Healy previously served as the Deputy to the Chief of the Air Force Reserve, HQ U.S. Air Force. (U.S. Air Force photo by Master Sgt. Louis Vega Jr.)



Lt. Gen. Richard W. Scobee is the former Chief of Air Force Reserve, headquarters U.S. Air Force, Arlington, Va., and Commander, Air Force Reserve Command, Robins Air Force Base, Georgia.

513th participates in Guam's Exercise Valiant Shield alongside Okies and Utah KC-135 crews

By Master Sgt. Lauren Kelly,
513th Air Control Group Public Affairs

The 513th Air Control Group evaluated the ability of the KC-135 to host a battle management team during exercise Valiant Shield at Andersen AFB, Guam in June.

Valiant Shield 2022 was a 12-day joint field training exercise (FTX) to enhance integration between U.S. military forces by conducting joint operations at sea, on land, in air, and in cyberspace.

Members of the 513th ACG worked alongside the Utah Air National Guard and the 507th Air Refueling Wing to assess the capability to provide command and control aboard a KC-135 rather than on an E-3 Sentry AWACS.

Valiant Shield 2022 is a biennial, U.S.-only, joint Field Training Exercise (FTX) focused on integration between U.S. forces in relation to current operational plans. This training enables real-world proficiency in sustaining joint forces through detecting, locating, tracking, and engaging adversary units.

The Utah Air National Guard's 151st Air Refueling Wing has partnered with the Air National Air Force Reserve Test Center, to lead the charge in putting technologies on the KC-135. Those capabilities may allow the Air Force to change the future of command and control.

The overall objective was to see if battle management was possible from the KC-135 and it was a success according to the team.

Full story and more to follow in next month's edition of the Rabbit Tales.



Members of the 513th ACG evaluate the intelligent gateway pallet alongside the hardware vendor in Guam June 14, 2022. (U.S. Air Force photo by Master Sgt. Lauren Kelly)

Just keep swimming; Reservists train on water survival

TINKER AIR FORCE BASE, Okla. – Thirty U.S. Air Force Reserve aircrew members from the 507th Air Refueling Wing and the 513th Air Control Group here attended a water training exercise at a local wave pool for water survival recertification, June 4, 2022.

The training, led by a Survival, Evasion, Resistance, and Escape specialist, is required for all aircrew members every 3 years in order to stay certified in water survival skills.

Survival training is held annually by Air Force Reserve units to make sure everyone remains deployment ready at any given time according to 1st Lt. Keisha Holback, a KC-135 pilot in the 465th Air Refueling Squadron.

“The training is a refresher on essential survival skills

in case we go down from an aircraft into water,” said Holback. “It’s to keep ourselves safe and to keep sensi-



tive info and ourselves away from enemy capture.”

The group carried out multiple scenarios with the aircrew members designed to equip them for any circumstance they may encounter such as weather, resource availability, and peaceful versus combat environments, according to Tech. Sgt. Samuel Wirstrom, a boom operator in the 465th ARS.

“If we were to get into a situation where we would have to evacuate the airplane and inflate the raft, we have to know how to survive in the water for X amount of days,” said Wirstrom. “One day it could save your life.”



Annual Operation Holiday Spirit Steak Supper to be held Dec. 2

23rd ANNUAL

HOLIDAY SPIRIT STEAK SUPPER

Friday December 2, 2022

American Legion/VFW Post - 5000 SE 24th Street - Del City, OK

Time: 6:00 to 10:00 PM

Price \$45.00 * * LIMITED TO 350 TICKETS/SEATS * *

Menu: Your choice of: A Ribeye Steak from Wheeler's Meat Market,
Grilled Chicken, or Veggie Lasagna.

Each option served with baked potato, veggies, salad, roll and cheesecake.

Beverages: Cash bar provided (no outside beverages)

TICKETS:

Visit <http://www.holidayspirit.org> for more information and to purchase tickets online

Total Force Integration; proving we are stronger together

By Meagan Hannon, 552nd Air Control Wing Public Affairs

The 552nd Air Control Wing recently underwent a health assessment of its Total Force Integration efforts with the Reserve's 513th Air Control Group. The Total Force Assessment, completed by Headquarters Air Force Directorate of Total Force Integration, was a multi-day deep dive into the relationship and integration between the two units and their installation.

While at Tinker Air Force Base, the team interviewed 97 airmen from various components, ranks and Air Force Specialty Codes, in an effort to obtain an objective understanding of the current state of integration. This assessment focused on three elements: cost and resources, partnerships and culture, and planning. The team routinely examines these areas in an effort to better a unit's assimilation, and ultimately, its mission execution.

Further, the assessments provide unbiased quantitative and qualitative data geared toward actionable findings. They identify best practices and lessons learned, which ultimately drives decision-making for leaders at all levels.

Col. James Matthey, commander of the 513 ACG stated, "The Air Force consists of four components. The Regular AF, Reserve, Guard and AF Auxiliary, and today's resource constraints require us to leverage experience and talent in all components. This TFA was long overdue, and the 552 ACW and 513 ACG are now well-positioned to implement recommendations and suggestions to improve our effectiveness and teamwork."

Matthey went on to say, "Our goal is to strengthen the airborne command and control enterprise, to include operations, maintenance, and support entities for the long haul. Despite the challenges of managing civilian careers, and military requirements, the reservists of the 513 ACG continue to provide agile combat ready forces, fortified by decades of experience. We have been valued mission partners for 26 years and look forward to the future."

The HAF/DSI assessment team concluded the visit with an onsite out brief, with much more to follow. According to Maj. Teri Boivin, Branch Chief of the AF/DSI Assessments Division, "Afterwards we provide an in-depth out brief that combines qualitative analysis from focus group data results, with rigorous examination of quantitative data from various sources of record. We also provide an executive summary with key observations and recommended actions. Both products are dis-

seminated to the appropriate commanders and leaders, TFI Shops, A5/8s, GOs, and Total Force counterparts."

Of the assessment, Col. Keven Coyle, commander of the 552nd Air Control Wing stated, "Our AF Reserve



partners bring immense experience to our ranks and are essential to our success. The TFA confirmed this on the operations side of the house but we have some work to do on the maintenance side to build more connective tissue amid the short stints where our maintainers interact with each other. We are stronger together, and we are very excited for our future partnership as we shepherd in a new weapons system in the coming years!"



One Team, One Fight, One Year Later: A message from SECAF Frank Kendall

To our Airmen and Guardians, our civilian employees, and their families and loved ones,

One year into my tenure as the Secretary of the Air Force, I'd like to share with you some thoughts about what we have achieved in the last year and what I hope we can accomplish going forward. I want to begin by thanking all of you for everything you do to make our Nation's Air and

Space Forces capable, professional, and ready. You all work to keep our nation safe every day.

There is no more fulfilling or important mission, and you perform it amazingly. I'm proud and humbled to have the opportunity to lead the Department of the Air Force.

One year ago, I introduced the mantra One Team, One Fight as a guiding principle. The best teams, in any endeavor, are successful when everyone does his or her job and commits themselves fully to the overall success of the whole team. We are all on the American national security team, and we must all be focused on making that team successful in any fight we are called upon to win.

Most of all, we must be ready to deal with our pacing challenge, which of course is China. At the same time we have to perform all of our other missions, including deterring acute threats like Russia, or other potentially hostile states, and dealing with violent extremist groups. To do all this successfully, we have to recognize our roles in contributing to the larger overall national security effort. None of this is about us individually whether we are in the Active, Guard or Reserve Component, or even about our immediate unit or organization; it's about something bigger than any of us, and a much bigger team of which we are all just one contributing part.

As a Military Department that includes two Services we provide combat and combat support capabilities to a Joint or Combined Force that must fight as an integrated team to win. The military team we are part of depends completely on the Total Force making up Air and Space Forces for operational success; we must do our part to support each other and the overall team. Our American defense strategy calls for integrated deterrence in which whole of

government and international partners are united in our "one fight". We live in an increasingly dangerous world, and we cannot afford to let parochial interests get in the way of performing our broader mission as essential members of the American national security team. One year later, this principle must still guide us.

The threat is increasing, and it will continue to do so. For decades now, China has endeavored to field forces designed to deter or defeat the United States, especially the power projection capability of the Air Force and the Space Force. In my first year with the Department, we have seen public evidence that China is expanding their nuclear forces, testing novel orbital weapons, continuing an unabated conventional force modernization program, and increasing the aggressiveness of their behavior in the Western Pacific, all while also expanding their reach globally.

In the last year, we've made a lot of progress in determining how we can stay ahead of our pacing challenge. We've focused our work on seven "operational imperatives," areas where there are current or emerging gaps in capability. For several months, expert teams have worked to define the best concepts and investments to close these gaps. Their work will be reflected in next year's budget request, but in many cases, we have already started efforts to move both the Air and Space Force in the right direction. I have also appreciated the hard work that has gone into roughly a dozen specific management initiatives, our efforts to identify opportunities to improve the management of the headquarters and the enterprise overall. As a result, we have been able to make a significant down payment to improve our IT and cyber posture - in other words, to fix our computers.

So far Congress has been receptive to our approach, but we will need continued support as we transition to new capabilities. My goal now is to obtain the resources we need to put militarily meaningful new capability into the hands of our Airman and Guardians as soon as possible. As we move into the next year, the Department's senior leadership, myself, the Under Secretary, the Service Chiefs and Vices, and the Service Senior Enlisted Leaders will do ev-

everything we can to achieve this goal. Your senior leadership team knows that its first responsibility is to give all of you the tools and training you need to do your jobs, now and into the foreseeable future.

We have made good progress in making our "one team" as ready and capable as possible, but we know that more work is needed. We have focused on assessing areas where we can improve. The disparity reviews conducted last year and the Independent Review Commission (IRC) on Sexual Assault have informed our efforts to build a more inclusive force where diversity is valued and where everyone is respected and has the opportunity to make their fullest contribution to the team. We have made meaningful policy changes intended to improve the quality of life of the Air and Space Force family in areas like caregiver leave, dress and personal appearance standards, and how we handle reports of sexual assault. The Department of the Air Force strengthened the discharge process for sexual offenders, and we are in the process of implementing a pilot to co-locate support services for survivors of sexual assault. This is in direct response to our report on interpersonal violence, published last year, as well as the IRC recommendations. For each of these initiatives, and in many others, we have formulated plans and put policies in place designed to make the Department of the Air Force more effective, welcoming, diverse, and supportive. Over the next year, we will be tracking our progress and taking additional steps to improve our support to the team.

We had a challenging year and you have performed amazingly. Your entire senior leadership team couldn't be more proud of what you have accomplished. You've met and defeated a pandemic, conducted the largest ever non-combatant aerial evacuation, assisted thousands of Afghan people transition to life in the United States, supported the people of Ukraine in their struggle against aggression, and deterred potential threats, of all types, around the world. A year ago, I told you I was humbled and honored to be your new Secretary of the Air Force. This year I'm also extremely proud to be a part of the Department of the Air Force family and a member of this team.

Commissioning packages due Oct. 3; board to be held Oct. 15

By 507th Force Support Squadron

The 2022 Non-Extended Active Duty Airmen Commissioning Board is tentatively scheduled to convene Oct. 15 in the 507th ARW at Tinker Air Force Base, Oklahoma. A list of available positions will be included in the convening notice.

Packages are due no later than Oct. 3.

Please ensure this message is given widest possible dissemination; applications must comply with the instructions outlined in 507 MPF Non-Extended Active Duty Airmen Commissioning Program (Non-EAD ACP) Process Guide (attached).

For questions relating to the Non-EAD ACP process, please contact 507 FSS/FSPD, Career Development Section at 507.fss.workflow@us.af.mil or 405-739-4522/DSN 339-4522.



AF connect app - are you connected?

Perfect for Reservists, the AF connect app allows you to stay up to date on the 513 ACG from anywhere!

The “groups” feature allows you to create groups based on the needs of your unit and gives your team the ability to communicate in one place. Download it today!

Once you have the app installed, just add 513th Air Control Group to your favorites, and get connected with the 513 ACG.

An advertisement for the AF Connect app. On the left, the 513th Air Control Group logo is shown above the text 'DOWNLOAD AF CONNECT'. Below this, it says 'KEEP UPDATED ON ALL THINGS RELATED TO 513TH AIR CONTROL GROUP'. At the bottom left are the Google Play and App Store download buttons. On the right, a smartphone screen displays the app's interface, which includes a search bar, a 3D model of a military aircraft, and a grid of icons for COVID-19, Notifications, Video/Photo/Take, UTA Schedule, Fitness, Groups, Directory, Emergency, Links, News, and Guidebook. The bottom of the screen shows a navigation bar with icons for HOME, CAC, PFT CALC, CONTACT, and FAVORITES.

Booster Club News



August

Garage Sale

Have stuff around the house you need to get rid of? Donate your unwanted stuff for the Booster Club Garage Sale. Another great part of your donation is that won't have to sell it. The collection location for items is the Heritage Room bldg. 461 or for larger items contact Capt Sarrah Williams (405) 812-9542 for drop off.

September

Chili Cook-Off Canceled

Got what it takes to say you have the best chili in the 513 ACG? Either to cook or try the amazing entries, come down to the 513 ACG Heritage Room, bldg. 461 at 1100 on Sunday, September 11, 2022 to see who takes the trophy! \$5 to try all the amazing chili's! Winner will receive a trophy and bragging rights!

Pre-Order AWACS Hawaiian Shirts/AWACS Mugs & Steins Deadline

Use the QR code or visit <https://513th-booster-club.square.site/> to make your pre-order.

Pre-order deadline September 11, 2022!



October

Boo Bash

This event will be on Friday, October 28, 2022 1500 – 1700. Location TBD.
The 513 ACG will have a booth at the event. All 513 ACG members and their families are welcome to attend.
More information will be provided closer to the event.

November

Thunder Game

Info will be sent out when the NBA game schedule has been finalized.
Trying to schedule this event for the Saturday of the November UTA.

December

Jingle in the New Year Holiday Party

This years party will be at the Petroleum Club. \$5 discounted tickets until July 31, 2022.
To purchase tickets, use the QR code or visit <https://513th-booster-club.square.site/>

If you have any questions or suggestions, please email 513thboosterclub@gmail.com



To join the Booster Club, contact one of the Executive Council or send an email to us at our org box email:
513thboosterclub@gmail.com



AWACS Swag Order

To order your swag, scan the QR code with your phone camera or email:
513thboosterclub@gmail.com

DEADLINE TO ORDER IS SEPTEMBER 11, 2022 COB



AWACS MUG/STEIN

Standard stein price (with no extras) is \$31
Standard mug price (with no extras) is \$26



Enlarged Detail

AWACS Hawaiian Shirt

\$49.99
Per Shirt

Available in
Red and Blue



**CURRENT
FUNDS
BALANCE:
\$4,478.08**

Enlisted Promotions



513th Holiday Party to be held at Petroleum Club



In the Spotlight

2nd Lt. Jordan Navarro

Job Title: Intelligence Officer, 513th Operations Support Squadron

Place I'd like to visit: Greece

Best place I've visited: Madrid, Spain

Civilian Job: Logistics Management Specialist, 507th LRS

Best part of my job: Each day of the job is never the same.

Pet peeve: Chronic lateness to occasions

Little known Fact: I love to make music and perform under my stage name J. Clyde, I used to teach Salsa & Bachata dancing for 5 years, and I had a scholarship for acting after high school graduation at the Downtown Performing Arts Center in Tampa, Florida.

Favorite Air Force memory: Jan 2020 Trondheim, Norway

I spearheaded an Expeditionary Bed-Down/Site Survey integrating the USAF in the NATO Joint Exercise Cold Response with U.S. Marines, 18K members of coalition forces Norway, the United Kingdom, the Netherlands, Germany, France, Belgium, Denmark, Finland and Sweden.



STAR PERFORMERS

Congratulations to the following 513th Maintenance Squadron Personnel!

Senior Airman Bobbi Kearns

**Awarded Tinker AFB's
Honor Guard Guardsman
of the Quarter and
Outstanding Volunteer
Victim Advocate (1 of 3 advocates)**



**Selected for the Maintenance
(2A) Key Personnel List**

**Senior Master Sgt. Jake O'Connor
Master Sgt. James Lopez**

Tinker to hold Operation K.U.D.O.S. Aug. 27

TINKER AIR FORCE BASE



AUGUST 27

9 AM - 3 PM

PDF LINE | COMMANDERS BRIEF | BASE X

Children ages 7-18 will experience military capabilities, static displays, dog demonstrations, an obstacle course, "Welcome Home" party and much more!

SIGN UPS ARE LIMITED | MORE INFO/REGISTRATION: FOLLOW THE LINK OR USE THE QR CODE

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/2022-k-u-d-o-s-tickets-305595463257>

405.739.2747
Airman & Family Readiness Center

- Thank You Sponsors -
NO FEDERAL ENDORSEMENT OF SPONSORS INTENDED
TFCU
Tinker Federal Credit Union

Upcoming Events

Tinker to host 75th Anniversary Air Force Ball

Event: 75th Anniversary Air Force Ball

Date: 24 Sept 22

Time: 1800

Location: The Chickasaw Bricktown Ballpark

Dress: Mess Dress (01-09), Semi-Formal
(E1-E9), Civilians: Formal Attire

Rsvp by: 23 Sept 22.

Yellow Ribbon Reintegration Program Upcoming Events

The Yellow Ribbon Program is a congressionally mandated program that is intended to provide military reservists and their families a forum to gather information on the resources and benefits available to them before and after deploying.

Crystal City, VA Aug 26-28, 2022

Orlando, FL Sep 16-18, 2022

For more information, contact the 507th ARW and 513th ACG's yellow ribbon rep, 2nd Lt. Mary Begy at mary.begy@us.af.mil or at DSN: 884-5632 or cell: 407-517-2971

Professional development classes move to UTA Sundays

Motivated to do more and be more?
Want to learn how to grow and develop
yourself or your team?

Know of current gaps in training? Join
us for our various training opportunities
throughout the year to grow and profes-
sionally develop yourself!

2022 Professional Development
Schedule

WHERE: 507th ARW Wing Auditorium,
Bldg.1056

August 7th @ 1000-1100
Effective Communication
Presented by: TSgt Grable

September 18th @ 1000-1100
Nutrition Training
Presented by: Elizabeth Bur-
gess

Virtual Option: If you can't attend in
person, call 301-909-7357 (From office
phone, dial 98, then 1, then the num-
ber) Access code: 247310745

If you would like to get involved with the
507 ARW Professional Development Coun-
cil, have any suggestions to improve the pro-
gram, or have training topic suggestions,
please reach out to the following POC's: Se-
nior Master Sgt. Jeremy Scoles, Master Sgt.
Kurt Weisel or Senior Airman Alyssa Perry.

Q and A with the commander

Would you like ask the commander a question anonymously? Scan the QR code below to submit your question.



Have you visited our website? (click the photo for link)



513TH ACG LEADERSHIP



513th Air Control
Group Commander
Col. Jim Matthey

513TH ACG HEADLINES



Under Secretary of the Air
Force visits Tinker AFB



513th ACG June Enlisted
Promotions

RABBIT TALES MAGAZINE



Would you like to submit a story or news/announcement to the Rabbit Tales? Please email us at: 513thpublicaffairs@gmail.com or 513ACG.PublicAffairs@us.af.mil