

Commander's Call Topics



September 19, 2013

“Change starts when someone sees the next step.”

William Drayton (1776-1846)
American politician

In his first *Roll Call* (below),
Chief Master Sgt. of the Air Force
James A. Cody
Lays out his vision,
reminding Airmen of the value of
face-to-face communication.

Face to Face Communication is Key

by Chief Master Sgt. of the Air Force James A. Cody

Roll Call! Now more than ever we need to communicate...face-to-face. Communication is and always will be the key to remain connected as Airmen and an Air Force. Our Air Force has long valued each and every Airman, yet over time we've gravitated to communication methods that easily fall short of the personal connection we need to solidify the value we place in each other.

In 2006, we reinstated Roll Call by releasing weekly products for supervisors to use when they meet with their Airmen. Roll Call remained viable for a few years, but faded away over time; now we look to bring it back... this time with some additional focus and expectations.

The Air Staff will provide Roll Call topics as needed, but no less than monthly. We will focus on information that lets you know how we're *Winning the Fight, Strengthening the Team, and Shaping the Future*.

We expect supervisors and leaders to conduct daily or weekly Roll Calls as appropriate. Meet with your Airmen face-to-face and discuss the latest topic. Use the three focus areas as a guide to keep Airmen informed. Each and every Airman is making a difference towards *Winning the Fight*; they must know and understand how they contribute and how important they are to our Air Force mission.

Supervisors and leaders, you must know your Airmen beyond their capabilities in the work centers. You must respect all Airmen and understand and appreciate what they bring to our team. If you know what is important to them, you will show them you care and ultimately be a better leader. We must and will take the time necessary to appreciate and care for each other.

Roll Calls provide the venue to connect with your Airmen, which builds trust and confidence and ultimately *Strengthens the Team*. Airmen have questions and concerns – we need to be there to provide answers and address these concerns. Airmen also have great ideas – we need to bring them to the forefront.

Our Air Force is facing many challenges that will likely continue for some time. We must remain connected as Airmen, and communicate effectively so we can capitalize on the opportunities to *Shape the Future*.

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► TRENDING...

[Acting Air Force secretary describes budget choices.](#) Everything is on the table, Eric Fanning said in a media roundtable at the Air Force Association's annual meeting.

► RESOURCES

AF.mil

<http://www.af.mil>

Airman magazine

<http://www.airmanonline.af.mil>

Air Force Outreach

<http://www.afoutreach.af.mil>

Military OneSource

<http://militaryonesource.af.mil>

Military HOMEFRONT

<http://www.militaryhomefront.dod>

Air Force Personnel Center

<https://mypers.af.mil> <http://www.afpc.af.mil>

Air Reserve Personnel Center

<http://www.arpc.afrc.af.mil>

Department of Defense News

<http://www.defense.gov>

Department of Veteran Affairs

<http://www.va.gov>

TRICARE

<http://www.tricare.mil>

U.S. Government Website

<http://www.firstgov.gov/>

Employment Opportunities

www.usajobs.com www.nafjobs.org

Air Force Association Scholarships

www.afa.org/AFA/InformationFor/Military/Scholarships

Air Force Safety Center

www.afsec.af.mil.asp

► THIS WEEK IN AIR FORCE HISTORY

September 19, 1972 – A Minuteman III completed its first operational test launch from a regular launch facility at Vandenberg AFB, Calif.

Sept. 21, 1952 - During the Korean War, F-86 Sabre pilot, Capt. Robinson Risner destroyed two MiG-15s to become an ace when the enemy responded to an attack on the Pukchong munitions plant by 41 F-84s.

Sept. 22, 2005 - From Vandenberg AFB, a Minotaur rocket carried a 920-pound DARPA military research satellite into a yearlong orbit to gather information about the Earth's environment in low orbit. The Minotaur rocket was made from decommissioned first and second stages of a Minuteman II missile.

Sept. 23, 1959 - The DoD reorganized its space and missile programs to give the Air Force responsibility over space transportation and ultimately all space booster rockets.

Sept. 24, 1929 – Lt. James H. Doolittle made the first all-blind flight at Mitchel Field. Although a check pilot accompanied him, Doolittle took off in a Consolidated NY-2 airplane with a completely covered cockpit, flew a short distance, and landed.

Sept. 25, 1918 - While on a voluntary patrol, Lt. Edward V. Rickenbacker attacked seven German aircraft near Billy, France. Despite the odds, he dived on them and shot one of the Fokkers out of control and then attacked one of the Halberstadts and also shot it down. For this action, he later received the Medal of Honor

► CURRENT ISSUES

[Roll Call returns; urges face-to-face communication](#)

Chief Master Sgt. of the Air Force James A. Cody is bringing Roll Call back to the Air Force. Roll Call is designed to deliver messages to the field from senior Air Force leadership for Airmen to use as a topic of discussion when they gather for daily or weekly meetings

► PERSONNEL ISSUES

[Changes to Federal benefits after the Supreme Court's ruling on the Defense of Marriage Act \(DOMA\)](#)

A number of federal agencies have released information about changes to federal programs and benefits as a result of the Supreme Court's decision

[Some Airmen may be entitled to additional SRB money](#)

Enlisted Airmen who retrained into a career field with a selective reenlistment bonus may be eligible for additional bonus money, even if they are now separated or retired from the Air Force.

► FAMILY, HEALTH AND SAFETY

[Buckley nerve center for FEMA flood victims support](#)

With more than a 1,000 people unaccounted for and communities still damaged from flooding, the Federal Emergency Management Agency, staged out of Buckley Air Force Base, Colo., continues providing life-essential materials to Coloradans in need.

For more information on Air Force heritage, visit

<http://www.airforcehistory.af.mil>

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