

Commander's Call Topics



November 21, 2013

“Adversity is an opportunity for heroism.”

Marv Levy (b. 1925)
American and Canadian football coach; Pro Football Hall of Fame

The next issue of
Commander's Call Topics
will be published on
Tuesday, November 26, 2013, to
accommodate the Thanksgiving
holiday.



Safe 'n Sound All Year Round

by Maj. Gen Kurt F. Neubauer
Air Force Chief of Safety

Gen. Neubauer issued the following Holiday/Winter Safety Campaign "Letter to Airmen" on Nov. 13. As part of this year's Holiday/Winter Safety Campaign, "Safe-n-Sound," Neubauer asks all Airmen to remember "double checks - not second thoughts." The Holiday/Winter Safety Campaign begins Nov. 22 and runs through Jan. 2, 2014.

November 13, 2013

MEMORANDUM FOR AIR FORCE AIRMEN

FROM: HQ USAF/SE
1400 Air Force Pentagon, Suite 4E252
Washington DC 20330-1400

SUBJECT: Holiday/Winter Campaign Message

Your safety is crucial to our combat capability and mission success. As we continue our *Safe 'n Sound* campaign from November 22 through January 2, 2014, I need you to remember, *double checks — not second thoughts*.

We lost four Airmen last winter, and had 158 on-duty and 231 off-duty accidents. Let's do better this year by carefully following our Air Force instructions, higher headquarters policies, published tech data and by using sound risk management techniques.

Whether it's on or off-duty, think before you act. Plan ahead. Stay brilliant in the basics. Take care of each other. Through this winter and holiday return to duty *Safe 'n Sound*.

► TRENDING...

“Air Force readiness has suffered an ‘increase level of risk’ as a result of sequestration,” said [Acting Secretary of the Air Force Eric Fanning](#) as he [addressed members of the Air Force Association](#) and the media during the association's monthly breakfast.

► RESOURCES

Website access to the following resources can be gained by clicking on the name.

AF.mil

[Airman magazine](#)

[Air Force Outreach](#)

[Military OneSource/HomeFront](#)

[Air Force Personnel Center](#)

[Air Reserve Personnel Center](#)

[Department of Defense News](#)

[Department of Veteran Affairs](#)

[TRICARE](#)

[U.S. Government Website](#)

[Air Force Association Scholarships](#)

[Air Force Safety Center](#)

[Civil Service Employment Opportunities](#)

[NAF Employment Opportunities](#)

► CURRENT ISSUES

[Hagel focuses on readiness at Reagan Library speech](#)

The effects of sequestration in both long-term preparedness and near-term readiness are major complications being felt throughout the department.

[Airmen shift from exercise to real-world relief efforts](#)

Returning to Japan from a Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief exercise in Bangladesh, a team of approximately 80 Airmen and three C-130 Hercules received new orders to join the multinational effort to assist the Philippine government's response to Typhoon Haiyan/Yolanda.

► PERSONNEL ISSUES

[Women Empowered seminar instills Jiu-Jitsu, self-defense strategies](#)

Aimed at reducing the frequency of sexual assaults in the armed forces, the Gracie Academy at Malmstrom AFB created the Women Empowered Gracie Defense Systems to teach techniques to deter sexual assault.

► FAMILY, HEALTH AND SAFETY

[U-2 modifications reduce decompression sickness](#)

CARE, or Cabin Altitude Reduction Effort, nearly eliminates the risk of decompression sickness. This extends the flying status of experienced pilots who might otherwise be compelled to step down.

► THIS WEEK IN AIR FORCE HISTORY

Nov. 21, 1994 - Air Force and NATO aircraft bombed Serb targets to retaliate for a Serbian attack on Bihac. The raid was the largest NATO operation to date.

Nov. 22, 1952 - While leading a flight of four F-80s against enemy gun positions in Korea, [Maj. Charles J. Loring](#) deliberately crashed his damaged aircraft into enemy gun emplacements. For that sacrifice, he earned the Medal of Honor.

Nov. 23, 2002 - The F/A-22 Raptor accomplished its first guided AIM-9M Sidewinder launch at 24,000 feet over the White Sands Missile Range at Mach 1.4. The AIM-9 passed within lethal range of a QF-4 drone flying at Mach 1.

Nov. 24, 1975 - A C-141 crew from Travis AFB, Calif., airlifted 100 penguins from McMurdo Station, Antarctica, to Miramar, Calif.

Nov. 25, 1956 - TSgt. Richard J. Patton made the first successful polar parachute jump when he bailed out of a C-124 Globemaster from 1,500 feet at the South Pole.

Nov. 26, 1968 - While flying a UH-1F helicopter, [1st Lt. James P. Fleming](#) twice exposed his aircraft to intense hostile fire while rescuing a special forces reconnaissance patrol near Due Co, Vietnam. He later received the Medal of Honor for his heroic action.

Nov. 27, 1962 - Davis-Monthan AFB received the first Titan II ICBM.

For more information on Air Force heritage, visit <http://www.airforcehistory.af.mil>

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