



Jan. 17, 2013

## The Air Force Loves A(n Inaugural) Parade

Who doesn't love a parade! Although the musical comedy movie for which "I Love A Parade" was written ("Manhattan Parade") in 1931 didn't survive in all its Technicolor glory, the song is played by just about every marching band to come up Washington, D.C.'s Pennsylvania Avenue since Franklin Roosevelt's first inauguration.

The participation of military marching bands in the Inaugural Parade finds its heritage in the first presidential swearing-in ceremony. The Continental Army escorted George Washington to Federal Hall in New York City on April 30, 1789.

Through the years, the swearing-in became a full-blown inauguration, and the military escort grew into a parade—"the most complicated event that takes place in the nation's capital," according to Army Maj. Gen. Michael S. Linnington, Joint Task Force– National Capital Region commanding general.

According to a news release issued by the U.S. Air Force Academy, traditionally, military units from each of the five branches have marched in the presidential escort and in the Inaugural Parade. More than 2,100 military personnel will be marching in this year's Inaugural Parade, with approximately 5,000 supporting the Inauguration overall.

Participants in the Air Force Division, and their marching order, include:

- The U.S. Air Force Band which will feature about 100 members of their 184-member, six-ensemble contingent. The band's mission is ceremonial, so parades are nothing new. It's the size of this particular marching unit, matching the magnitude of the event, that makes it unique.
  - Cadet Squadron 22 from the U.S. Air Force Academy, Colorado Springs, Colo., which will be led by Cadet 1st Class Erin Doran of Brunswick, Ohio, who will salute the president as she leads her fellow Air Force Academy cadets. Cadet Doran is this semester's squadron commander for Cadet Squadron 22. She will lead 82 cadets from her squadron, which represents the Academy by virtue of being named the outstanding cadet squadron for the previous academic year.
  - The U.S. Air Force Honor Guard, whose mission is to represent Airmen to the American public and the world, will be marching in an unusual nine-by-nine formation in which 81 airmen will be marching together. Honor Guard formations for most ceremonies and parades consist of 15 to 18 airmen.
  - The U.S. Air Force Color Guard.
- The U.S. Air National Guard, 113th Wing, D.C Air National Guard, is truly unique. Known as the "Capital Guardians," the Wing provides air sovereignty forces to defend the Nation's Capital, and also provides fighter, airlift and support forces capable of local, national and global employment.

• The U.S. Air Force Reserve, 459th Air Refueling Wing, Joint Base Andrews, Md., whose mission is to "recruit, train, equip, challenge, mentor and reward the men and women of the unit to be the Air Force Reserve Command's #1 Wing providing safe, sustained, outstanding service to ourselves, our communities and nation."

The military participants in the Inaugural Parade are broken up into five divisions, with the first four divisions consisting of Army, Marine Corps, Navy and Air Force, respectively. Division 5 is made up of Coast Guard and Merchant Marines.

*-- Martha Lockwood  
Chief, Information Products, Defense Media Activity*

### ► THIS WEEK IN AIR FORCE HISTORY

**Jan. 17, 1932** - After a severe snowstorm, seven aircraft from the 11th Bomb Squadron flew missions for 4 days to deliver supplies to Navajo Indians near Winslow, Ariz. Lieutenant Charles H. Howard received the Mackay Trophy for this effort.

**Jan. 18, 1905** - Through their congressman, the Wright Brothers opened negotiations with the U.S. Government to build an aircraft. The government, however, refused the offer.

**Jan. 19, 1976** - The 180th Tactical Fighter Group became the first Air National Guard unit to participate in a Red Flag exercise at Nellis AFB, Nev.

**Jan. 20, 1960** - Early in January, the Soviet Union announced tests of more powerful rockets. Through Jan. 22, Pacific Air Forces employed KC-135, C-130, and RB-69 (P2V-7) aircraft to observe these tests.

**Jan. 21, 1991** - During Operation Desert Storm, Capt Paul T. Johnson in his A-10 Thunderbolt II found a downed Navy

fighter pilot, who had ejected in Iraqi territory. Johnson destroyed a threatening Iraqi truck, which allowed an Air Force MH-53J Pave Low helicopter to rescue the pilot. For his efforts, Johnson received an Air Force Cross.

**Jan. 22, 1964** - The Lockheed SR-71 Blackbird first flew.

**Jan. 23, 1961** - The last Atlas-D launch from Cape Canaveral, Fla., was a success. Altogether, there were 35 completely successful launches, eight partial successes, and six failures in the program.

## ► 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://www.militaryonesource.com/>

### **Air Force Personnel Center**

<https://mypers.af.mil>

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

### **Department of Defense News**

<http://www.defense.gov>

### **Department of Veterans Affairs**

<http://www.va.gov>

### **TRICARE**

<http://www.tricare.mil>

### **U.S. Government Website**

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

### **Employment Opportunities**

[www.usajobs.com](http://www.usajobs.com)

[www.nafjobs.org](http://www.nafjobs.org)

### **Air Force Association**

#### **Scholarships**

<http://www.afa.org/aef/aid/scholars.asp>

### **Air Force Safety Center**

[www.afsec.af.mil](http://www.afsec.af.mil)

## 57<sup>th</sup> Presidential Inauguration set to become history

In 1933, the Twentieth Amendment set January 20th as the date for the Presidential Inauguration. Up until then, the date had been March 4th for the simple practical reason that it took that long to achieve an accurate vote count from the November elections. Modern voting methods allow for the earlier date—except of course when the 20th falls on a Sunday, as it does in 2013. Then, the Inaugural moves to Monday, the 21st, with the President and Vice President taking the oath of office in a private ceremony on the 20th.

Historians tell us that Franklin Roosevelt was the only president to take the oath of office four times. That's true, until Monday, that is. Because of the abovementioned tandem inauguration, President Obama will take the oath of office twice this year. In 2008 he took the oath of office twice, as well: once on Monday, January 20th, broadcast throughout the world, and again on Tuesday, January 21st at a small ceremony in the White House. It was Chief Justice Roberts who had urged the second oath-taking, just to make sure that his word-transposed prompting of the President the day before wouldn't be cause for a legal precedent that no one had intended.

Most Inaugurations are memorable for other reasons than the 35 words of the oath itself.

In 1857, James Buchanan's inaugural was the first ever to be photographed. In 1997, Bill Clinton was the first president whose inauguration was broadcast over the internet.

Ronald Reagan's inaugurals ran hot and cold. The temperature hit 55 degrees in 1981 for the warmest weather for taking the oath of office. Four years later in 1985, the temperature rose no higher than seven degrees by noon. The Inauguration had to be held inside, and the parade was canceled.

Some inaugural addresses are made memorable by a turn of phrase, the historic tone, or the expression of an inspiring idea.

Who could forget Franklin Roosevelt's Depression-era statement of self-reliance: "The only thing we have to fear is fear itself." Only four years earlier, at the beginning of 1929, Herbert Hoover had almost tempted fate with this statement of complacency and boastfulness in March: "We have reached a higher degree of comfort and security than ever existed before in the history of the world." October that year would give us Black Monday and the crash heard 'round the world.

John F. Kennedy's inaugural address followed his famous phrase of service-before-self ("Ask not what your country can do for you—ask what you can do for your country.") with a global appeal to end the Cold War when he said "My fellow citizens of the world: Ask not what America will do for you, but what together we can do for the freedom of man." The Cold War is ended, but the spirit of freedom still inspires us.

Monday, January 21st is the 57th Inaugural of the President of the United States of America. It won't be famous for the weather. Posterity will inform us if it is notable for its inaugural address, or if an impossible-to-ignore flub will be the most-remembered moment, or if a statement of fact becomes an unintended omen. Inauguration Day 2013 is an historic day simply because no other nation on earth has experienced such continuity of democracy.

-- Martha Lockwood  
Chief, Information Products, Defense Media Activity

"Focused on 'Airmen, Mission, and Innovation,' I believe [this short document](#) captures what today's Air Force is all about and where I think we ought to focus on for tomorrow," -- Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. Mark A. Welsh III in an email to all Airmen concerning the release of a new Air Force vision document.

#### ► CURRENT ISSUES

##### [State of the AF is 'strong'](#)

The Air Force's top leaders said today the service has accomplished much while dealing with many challenges in the last year.

##### [DOD official lauds veterans' commercial license effort](#)

Maryland has joined 33 other states in agreeing to waive the skills test for veterans and service members who have military training that would entitle them to a commercial driver's license, a senior Defense Department official said today.

##### [Airman will be part of history during 57th Presidential Inauguration](#)

A selected few from the ranks of the Air Force, along with those selected by their sister services, will become a part of history on Jan. 21, when President Barack Obama takes his second oath of office during the 57th Presidential Inauguration.

##### [Air Force leaders issue Martin Luther King Day message](#)

Secretary of the Air Force Michael Donley, Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. Mark A. Welsh III and Chief Master Sgt. of the Air Force James Roy send the following Martin Luther King Day message to the Airmen of the U.S. Air Force:

#### ► PERSONNEL ISSUES

##### [Airmen urged to reenlist, extend current enlistment, retire, separate before Feb. 15](#)

Air Force officials are encouraging active-duty Airmen who are eligible to reenlist, extend their current enlistment, retire or separate in March to complete these personnel actions through the myPers website and their base military personnel sections by Feb. 15 to avoid processing delays and military pay issues.

##### [75-day leave carryover extended](#)

Airmen with more than 60 days of leave at the beginning of next fiscal year may be able to carry it into the next fiscal year thanks to a provision in the FY 2013 National Defense Authorization Act. The provision extends the maximum leave carryover of 75 days through Sept. 30, 2015, according to Senior Master Sgt. Kreig Cressione, the Air Force Personnel Center Special Programs Branch Chief.

##### [AF officials reschedule MilPDS upgrade](#)

Originally slated for December 2012, Air Force officials will perform a major upgrade to the Military Personnel Data System, or MilPDS, March 2013.

#### ► FAMILY, HEALTH AND SAFETY

##### [GI Bill education transfer incurs 4 years for all Airmen](#)

When initially implemented, the Post-9/11 GI Bill education transfer program was phased in to enable Airmen nearing retirement to accept a 1-, 2-, or 3-year active-duty service commitment.

##### [Airman fatally injured at MacDill AFB](#)

A member of the 6th Air Mobility Wing died in an industrial area accident here Jan. 14, at approximately 4:30 p.m.

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

The Defense Media Activity produces Commander's Call Topics weekly. For questions or comments about this, or any other DMA product, send e-mail to [afproducts@dma.mil](mailto:afproducts@dma.mil). To subscribe to Air Force news and information products online, go to [www.af.mil/information/subscribe](http://www.af.mil/information/subscribe).