

# Commander's Call Topics



May 30, 2013

*"The future? The thing that got us here will not get us there."*

Peter F. Drucker (1909-2005)  
Management consultant, educator and author

More than 80 percent of non-combat fatalities in 2012 took place over the summer. Mitigate the Critical Days of Summer. Safety has a role in all we do.

## **Preparation Now Could Save Lives and More During Hurricane Season**

The Girl Scouts and Boy Scouts embrace it as their motto: "Be prepared." It is the basis for the Scouts' vision of themselves as ever-ready to lend a helping hand because their house is in order. Not a bad idea, especially when dealing with hurricanes: It's all about being prepared.

This is National Hurricane Preparedness Week, the calm before the storm season that spans from June 1 to November 30<sup>th</sup> in the Atlantic basin and from May 15<sup>th</sup> to November 30<sup>th</sup> in the Eastern Pacific basin. While there is usually ample warning of an approaching hurricane, there is never enough time to gather everything one needs to be totally prepared. Moreover, readiness for the onslaught makes all the difference in how quickly one recovers from the combined fury of wind, rain, rising surf and flying debris.

Tyndall Air Force Base, Fla., conducted a hurricane preparedness exercise earlier in May, and while the exercise was primarily designed to ensure that the installation was prepared to respond, it was also about lessons learned and making adjustments, and about family and individual preparedness.

"Individual and family preparedness is directly related to installation preparedness," said Frank LaBroad, 325th Fighter Wing exercise evaluation team chief. "We all need to take individual responsibility to prepare ourselves and our families so we can focus on the mission. It's the perfect time to look over family plans or to develop one if you haven't yet."

One way to enhance personal preparedness is to follow the recommendations of The National Weather Service. NWS offers an extensive [Hurricane Preparedness Checklist](#) that every household and business should download, act on and save. It is a wealth of information needed to make it through the stormy days and their dark aftermath. Disaster kits and

storage locations based on different situations are part of the checklist, as are action plans, recovery processes and national and local resources for pre-storm and post-storm activity.

Another facet of preparation—caring for pets—was the focus last week at Keesler AFB, Miss. A [hurricane reminder about how to care for pets](#) during a major storm was posted on the Keesler AFB website. Among the recommendations is a Pet Emergency Supply Kit list, and a reminder to make pets a part of the family evacuation plan. For those who cannot take their pets with them during evacuation, there is a list of websites that assist pet owners with finding a pet-friendly hotel or other necessities during and after the hurricane.

[NOAA](#), the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, is forecasting an "active or extremely active" hurricane season this year. For the six-month hurricane season that begins June 1, NOAA's Atlantic Hurricane Season Outlook says "there is a 70 percent likelihood of 13 to 20 named storms (winds of 39 mph or higher), of which 7 to 11 could become hurricanes (winds of 74 mph or higher), including 3 to 6 major hurricanes (Category 3, 4 or 5; winds of 111 mph or higher). These ranges are well above the seasonal average of 12 named storms, 6 hurricanes and 3 major hurricanes."

It makes no difference if one is weathering 12 storms or one, preparedness is the key to emerging from the storm with the best possible outlook. Or as Benjamin Franklin has said "By failing to prepare, you are preparing to fail."

*Martha J. Lockwood  
Chief, Information Products*

### ► TRENDING ...

"We just want to get to the bottom line or the new top-line budget ... and [get on with preparing our Air Force to remain the best in the world](#)," -- Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. Mark A. Welsh III speaking during a Pentagon press briefing about the effects of sequestration on readiness and training.

## ► 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](http://www.usajobs.com)

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

### **Air Force Association**

#### **Scholarships**

<http://www.afa.org/ae/aidscholars.asp>

### **Air Force Safety Center**

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

## ► CURRENT ISSUES

### [AF provides special counsel to sexual assault survivors](#)

Often, when survivors of sexual assault are "put on the witness stand, they can feel like they're being attacked," said Capt. Dustin Kouba, a special victims counsel attorney. "I feel like I'm almost defending them ... I'm like their big brother."

### [Commission on AF structure to meet](#)

The National Commission on the Structure of the Air Force is set to hold its first public hearing Tuesday, June 4th, 2013 in the Rayburn House Office Building in Washington, D.C.

## ► PERSONNEL ISSUES

### [Air Force announces OTS selection board results](#)

A total of 110 men and women from across America have earned an opportunity to become Air Force leaders following their selection for an officer's commission, officials here announced today.

## ► FAMILY, HEALTH AND SAFETY

### [Deployed medical experts learn skills to identify sexual assault](#)

From across Afghanistan, 22 U.S. Air Force, Army and Navy medical professionals gathered here for the Sexual Assault Forensic Examinations training.

## ► ENVIRONMENT, SPACE AND TECHNOLOGY

### [F-35 ITF works toward night, weather certification](#)

The F-35 Integrated Test Force is wrapping up a series of night flights, which are testing the aircraft's capability when flying in instrument meteorological conditions.

For more information on Air Force heritage, visit

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

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## ► THIS WEEK IN AIR FORCE HISTORY

**May 30, 2001** - An aircrew from Edwards AFB, Calif., launched the first live joint air-to-surface standoff missile from a B-52H over the White Sands Missile Range. The weapon destroyed a concrete bunker from 195 miles.

**June 1, 1912** – Capt. Charles DeForest Chandler made the first night flight at College Park, Md.

**June 2, 1949** – Gen. Henry H. Arnold received the permanent rank of General of the Air Force.

**June 3, 1961** – Air Force engineers test-fired the most powerful solid-fuel rocket engine known to Western scientists. In the test at Sacramento, Calif., some 94,000 pounds of propellant produced in excess of 500,000 pounds of thrust.

**June 4, 1907** - Corporal Edward Ward, the first NCO in the Army's

new balloon organization, detailed to learn balloon manufacturing. The unit later became the Signal Corps' Aeronautical Division.

**June 5, 1981**- The KC-10 completed qualification testing at Edwards AFB, Calif.

**June 6, 1975** - The last 16 B-52s at U-Tapao AB, Thailand, began their redeployment to the US.