

Commander's Call Topics



July 25, 2013

"It is understanding that gives us an ability to have peace. When we understand the other fellow's viewpoint, and he understands ours, then we can sit down and work out our differences. The buck stops here."

Harry S Truman (1884-1972)
33rd President of the United States

August is swimming season. Help prevent accidents by following these [safety tips](#).

Woodward Lays Out First Steps in SAPR Restoration

"I have one goal. It's to make every Airman secure and confident in their service and proud of being a wingman for each and every one of our fellow Airmen, and that there is never a breakdown in that sacred bond."

Scarcely a month has passed since [Maj. General Margaret Woodward said those words](#) as she took command of the reorganized Air Force Sexual Assault Prevention and Response office. And what a month it has been. Acknowledging the military's multi-year challenge that preceded her arrival, Gen. Woodward stressed that the crime of sexual assault is physical and it is emotionally scarring. To overcome this blight, AF Chief of Staff Gen. Mark A. Welsh III has mandated that Gen. Woodward initiate broad and sweeping changes.

Relying on her team of 31 experts "who are truly dedicated to tackling the multidimensional issues surrounding sexual assault and rape occurring in our Air Force," Gen. Woodward has begun [moving out on multiple fronts](#). Among them:

- "Every Airman Counts," an initiative launched by Vice Chief of Staff Gen. Larry Spencer. Among other communications efforts, the program includes a peer-to-peer blog where Airmen can share ideas on how the Air Force can better address this issue.
- As of July 2, after completing any disciplinary action for sexual assault, commanders must initiate

administrative discharge processing for any Airman, officer or enlisted, found to have committed a sexual assault offense.

- Airmen have the right to have a general officer review a case if the Airman believes the commander's recommendation for involuntary separation was initiated in retaliation for having made an unrestricted report of a sexual assault within the previous 12 months.
- Travel to several bases to conduct Airmen surveys and focus groups and to personally talk to Airmen about their views and perspectives.
- The Special Victims Counsel program has been established to provide trained legal advisers to those who have been victimized. This program is designed to fill gaps that often arise in the wake of sexual assault and rape cases.

Other programs are in place and are planned. However, Gen. Woodward was quick to point out that "there is no silver bullet, no quick fix." Coming from Gen Woodward, that sounds like a promise for a secure and confident future.

Martha J. Lockwood
Chief, Information Products

► TRENDING ...

"The harm in [this crime is not just physical; it is emotional](#), scarring the mental health of our Airmen, often in enduring ways." -- Maj. Gen. Margaret H. Woodward in a commentary on sexual assault in the Air Force. General Woodward is the Director of the Air Force Sexual Assault Prevention and Response Office of the Vice Chief of Staff, Headquarters U.S. Air Force

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

Air Force Safety Center
www.afsec.af.mil

► THIS WEEK IN AIR FORCE HISTORY

July 25, 2000 – A pilot flying the F-22 Raptor No. 02 successfully launched an AIM-9 missile at the China Lake test range to confirm its ability to launch an air-to-air missile from an internal weapons bay.

July 26, 1915 - Through July 29, Capt. Benjamin D. Foulois and his 1st Aero Squadron, with 8 JN-2 airplanes, traveled from San Diego by train to Fort Sill, Okla. There they participated in observation and fire control experiments with the Field Artillery School.

July 27, 1953 - Capt Ralph S. Parr, Jr., shot down an Il-12 for the last aerial victory of the Korean War.

July 28, 1943 – Second Lieutenant John C. Morgan earned the Medal of Honor for his actions during a bombing mission over Europe. [Read more about Lieutenant Morgan here.](#)

July 29 1995 - The 11th Reconnaissance Squadron activated at Nellis AFB to operate

the remotely piloted aircraft, the Predator. It was the first such unit in the Air Force.

July 30, 1948 - North American Aviation delivered the first operational jet bomber, the B-45A Tornado, to the Air Force.

July 31, 1995 - The 351st Missile Wing, the last Minuteman II unit, inactivated at Whiteman AFB, Mo.

► CURRENT ISSUES

[No more redundant inspections: AF implements new inspection system](#)
The Air Force recently implemented a new inspection system, aimed at giving more power to wing commanders.

► PERSONNEL ISSUES

[Free smartphone app designed to keep Airmen informed](#)
The Air Force launched a free mobile application geared toward informing Airmen and families about force support squadron morale, welfare and recreation events happening on their bases.

► FAMILY, HEALTH AND SAFETY

[Pilot program enhances Autism care, treatment](#)
A congressionally mandated pilot program set to launch July 25 will enhance an existing Defense Department program that provides care and treatment for military children with autism, a senior DOD official said.

► ENVIRONMENT, SPACE AND TECHNOLOGY

[Kehler lauds capability, credibility of nuclear enterprise](#)
Sweeping improvements across the U.S. nuclear enterprise since a 2007 incident have increased the focus on the nuclear mission and raised the bar in terms of standards and performance, the commander of U.S. Strategic Command told reporters July 24.

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

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