

# Commander's Call Topics



May 1, 2014

"You will never do anything in this world without courage.  
It is the greatest quality of the mind next to honor."

Aristotle  
Philosopher and scientist  
(384-322 BCE)

Just about everything  
You ever wanted to know about  
[tornado safety](#)  
is on the American Red Cross  
website.

## Commitment and Courage

Roll Call! Today we serve in the world's greatest Air Force. We're an agile force that responds in a moment's notice to national threats, provides global capabilities to the joint fight, and dominates in air, space and cyberspace. We are the best, because we have the best ... *you*. We *win the fight, strengthen the team* and *shape the future* because our Airmen share a common commitment and the necessary courage to serve and sacrifice.

We commit to our core values. We commit to each other, our fellow Airmen ... the men and women who share the same heritage, the same mission and the same passion to serve. We have the courage to face an enemy under fire, the courage to take on new roles and new challenges and the courage to step forward when others may step back.

Commitment and courage set us apart as Airmen. They are the traits we must rely on to conquer a terrible problem: sexual assault.

This month, we have paused for Sexual Assault Awareness Month. It's been an opportunity for us to break from the daily grind, to take a knee and to think and talk about sexual assault. We've come a long way over the last year, and yet we still have so far to go.

Sexual assault is a serious issue; it continues to destroy the lives of our fellow Airmen and weaken our force ... yet make no mistake about it, we are good enough to overcome. We are the world's greatest Air Force and we have the world's greatest Airmen with the commitment and courage we need to succeed.

We must fully commit to eradicating the crime of sexual assault from the ranks. We must commit to creating an environment where every Airman is treated with dignity and respect. We must have the courage to admit sexual assault is happening and is a problem, the courage to act when a fellow Airman is in danger, and the courage to speak up when we hear or see something that just isn't right. We know what's right, and what's not.

Throughout history we have relied on our commitment and courage to conquer our enemies, foreign and domestic, seen and unseen. We have been brave in the face of danger, because of our unshakable pledge to our nation, to the mission and to each other. We cannot continue to win the fight if we choose to accept and ignore the reality. Sexual assault is a problem we must take on and defeat. We cannot allow this enemy from within to continue to exist and define who we are as an Air Force.

Every Airman must have the commitment and courage to conquer the enemy of sexual assault. Our greatest strength will be the cause of victory ... that is *you*, each and every Airman.

[Chief Master Sergeant of the Air Force James A. Cody](#)



### ► TRENDING...

"They served each other and our country proudly; they saved a world and they inspired a nation," said [Air Force Chief of Staff General Mark A. Welsh III](#) during a [ceremony honoring nine World War II U.S. Army Air Force Airmen](#) who were finally received the Prisoner of War Medal seven decades later.

## ► RESOURCES

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

[AF.mil](#)

[Airman magazine](#)

[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](#)

[Air Force Bands/Outreach](#)

## ► THIS WEEK IN AIR FORCE HISTORY

**May 1, 2001** - The Space Shuttle Endeavour landed at Edwards AFB after a mission to the International Space Station to deliver a robotic arm, a multipurpose logistics module, and an UHF antenna.

**May 2, 1977** – 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Christine E. Schott became the first woman undergraduate pilot student to solo in the T-38 Talon.

**May 3, 1930** - Laura Ingalls completed 344 consecutive loops. Afterwards, she tried again and accomplished 980 loops. In another flight later in the year, she successfully completed 714 barrel rolls, giving her a pair of records no one has challenged.

**May 4, 1979** - The A-10B flew its first flight at Edwards AFB, Calif.

**May 5, 2004** - Two C-130s from the 146th AW (California ANG), equipped with the Modular Airborne Firefighting System, dropped 21,600 gallons of fire-retardant on the Cachuma fire in Santa Barbara County, Calif.

**May 6, 1937** - The German dirigible Hindenberg burned while moored at Lakehurst, N.J. Thirty-five people died in the fire.

**May 7, 1945** – At Reims, the German High Command surrendered unconditionally, effective May 9.

## ► CURRENT ISSUES

[Air Force secretary reports on total force balance](#)

Testifying at a Senate Armed Services Committee hearing, [Air Force Secretary Deborah Lee James](#) outlined the service's progress in leveraging the talent and capabilities of the Air National Guard and the Air Force Reserve within the total force concept.

[Laughlin and Keesler Airmen win 2013 AETC Cost Conscious Culture Award](#)

Assessing and changing office processes in order to consolidate all documents into a digital library, drought-tolerant landscaping, and a No Heat/No Cool program to conserve energy are just three of the winners from Air Education and Training Command's Cost Conscious Culture (C3) Annual Awards, presented to teams and individuals who initiate successful ways to meet the challenges associated with the current budget environment and achieve measurable savings.

## ► FAMILY, HEALTH AND SAFETY

[Tutoring anywhere, anytime](#)

Available to grades K-12 students in eligible military families, Tutor.com provides tutoring and homework help, test prep and essay-writing help at no cost.

## ► PERSONNEL ISSUES

[April 28—Pulse on AF force management](#)

In a continuing effort to bring Airmen the latest, most accurate information concerning force management programs, this week's Pulse features updates on the latest voluntary and involuntary matrices and other information concerning the complex and dynamic force management programs.

[Enlisted members interested in attaché duty must apply by June 2](#)

Only exceptional NCOs will be considered for the post that requires developing and maintaining harmonious and cooperative relationships between the U.S. Air Force and the host nation air force.

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

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