

# Commander's Call Topics



October 30, 2014

**“If you don’t have time to do it right,  
when will you have time to do it over?”**

*John Wooden (1910-2010)  
“The Wizard of Westwood”  
The first person named to the  
Basketball Hall of Fame as a player (1961)  
and as a coach(1973)*

Sunday, November 2<sup>nd</sup> at 2 AM  
is the end of

[Daylight Saving Time.](#)

Set your clocks back one hour  
before retiring on Saturday.

---

## Combating Sexual Assault: It takes all Airmen to make a difference

by [Gen. Larry O. Spencer](#)

*Air Force vice chief of staff*

Just as Airmen broke the sound barrier and pioneered new paths to space, Airmen will pioneer new ways to prevent sexual assault in the Air Force.

Preventing this crime is not easy; if it were, you, America’s Airmen, would already have eliminated it from our force. As we begin this new fiscal year, I ask for your help in pioneering new ways to prevent sexual assault in the force. To be clear, preventing sexual assault focuses on the individual who commits the crime and how to intervene before a crime takes place.

Whether the campaign is called ‘Inherent Resolve,’ ‘Airmen Powered by Innovation,’ or ‘Every Airman Counts,’ your ideas are at the forefront of solving every challenge the Air Force faces, and eliminating sexual assault is no different.

In the past several years, we have made great improvements in our sexual assault response programs. We added more sexual assault response coordinators and funded full-time victim advocates at each installation. We stood up a special victims’ capability that is comprised of specially trained investigators, prosecutors, and legal support personnel to appropriately prosecute these sex crimes. We also significantly increased our victim advocacy capability with special victim counselors that are available to all sexual assault victims and whose sole purpose is to represent the victim in any legal proceedings or assist in any other legal and policy matters a victim may need.

We have also spent a great deal of time training and educating every Airman about sexual assault prevention and response. This education starts from the day an Airman walks into a recruiting office, and continues throughout their career.

However, our job is far from done. While we’ve made progress in victim advocacy and appropriately holding offenders accountable, there is still significant work to do in preventing sexual assault before it happens.

Together, we all need to get better at recognizing the characteristics of the perpetrator and the subtle situations in which we can stop harassment, assault and violence before it happens.

This is where I need your help.

Jan. 12 – 16, 2015, we are conducting a Sexual Assault Prevention Summit at Andrews Air Force Base, Maryland, and will bring in Airmen from across the force to participate. While only some of you will be given the opportunity to attend in person, I want all of your ideas on how we can better prevent sexual assault. Please visit the Air Force’s [Every Airman Counts Blog](#) and submit your ideas and any other thoughts you have about creating an Air Force free from sexual assault.

It’s going to take all of us working together and exploring innovative ideas to come up with a practical toolkit that we can all use to effectively prevent this horrible crime from taking place in the Air Force. I appreciate you taking the time to make the difference and to bring us to the next level in the fight against sexual assault.

## ► 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

**Oct 30, 1940** -- The 71st Squadron Royal Air Force (1st Eagle Squadron with American volunteers) became operational.

**Oct. 31, 1972** --The Air Force inactivated the last BOMARC surface-to-air missile squadron, the 22d Air Defense Missile Squadron, at Langley AFB, Virginia.

**Nov. 1, 1954** -- The Air Force retired its last B-29 Superfortress from service. The aircraft had less than 12 years in the active inventory.

**Nov. 2, 1944** -- While on a mission over Merseberg, Germany, a bomber sustained three hits from anti-aircraft shells. Severely wounded navigator [Lt. Robert E. Femoyer](#) refused morphine to keep his head clear so he could direct his plane out of danger. For more than two hours, he navigated his lone bomber away from flak. Only when he reached the English Channel did he agree to take a sedative. He died after the plane landed in England. For his sacrifice, Femoyer received the Medal of Honor.

**Nov. 3, 2007** -- U.S. Southern Command had a C-130 Hercules deliver 27 crates of potable water to San Isidro Air Base, Dominican Republic, for victims of Tropical Storm Noel. Two ANG UH-60 Blackhawks also conducted search and rescue missions in the area. By Nov. 12, American and British aircrews delivered more than 241,000 pounds of provisions to the Dominican Republic.

**Nov. 4, 1985** -- Rescuers with the Air Force Rescue Coordination Center saved 47 people during flood relief operations in the Shenandoah Valley, Virginia.

**Nov. 5, 1950** – During the Korean War, 21 B-29s from the 19th Bomb Group began incendiary bomb attacks on North Korean cities and towns. They dropped 170 tons of fire bombs on Kanggye, near the Chinese border, and destroyed 65 percent of the town's center.

Recent promotion? Change of command? Increased number of flight hours?

There are many reasons to update a biography!

Keep your leadership current by ensuring that their AF.mil biography is up to date.

Send us updates in real-time using the **NEW** link below:

[afbiographies.dma@mail.mil](mailto:afbiographies.dma@mail.mil)

## ► FAMILY, HEALTH AND SAFETY

[2014 holiday-season mailing dates set](#)

Only four weeks between Thanksgiving and Christmas Eve — prime time for holiday mailing — is a shorter-than-usual timeframe, and the U. S. Postal Service has announced this year's optimum mailing dates.

## ► PERSONNEL ISSUES

[AF adjusts enlisted retention results](#)

A coding issue used in determining the eligibility of Airmen meeting the Junior Enlisted Retention Board affected 50 Airmen.

[AF to implement DOD TDY changes](#)

TDY policy changes affecting Joint Travel Regulations, Reimbursable and Incidental Expense Policy and long-term per diem expenses are being phased in.

[VA expands Fry scholarship to surviving spouses of service members who died on active duty](#)

Newly expanded eligibility criteria that include surviving spouses is being added to the provisions of the Veterans Access, choice and Accountability Act of 2014 ("Choice Act").

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 an e-mail to [afproducts@dma.mil](mailto:afproducts@dma.mil).

Subscribe to AF news and information products online, go to <https://public.govdelivery.com/accounts/USDODAF/subscriber/new>