



November 3, 2016

Officer Developmental education selection declination policy

The Air Force has changed the officer developmental education selection declination policy, which means officers will have the opportunity to decline in-residence intermediate or senior developmental education without the implications of the seven-day option policy. Under previous policy, there was no differentiation between operational and developmental assignments. Whether an Airman was being assigned to Kunsan, Bagram or Minot (operational assignments) or Maxwell or NDU (developmental assignments), officers who chose to decline a valid assignment were forced to separate or retire from the AF (known as the 7-day option policy). The Air Force revised that policy whereas we distinguish between an operational assignment (our routine PCS and TDY assignments) and developmental assignments which are intended to enhance an individual's value to the enterprise. Under the new policy, declination of developmental assignments no longer result in measures where Airmen are asked to separate or retire in lieu of accepting the developmental assignment. This policy modification is being driven by a desire to improve retention and increase assignment flexibility for our Airmen and families where we can. Bottom-line, where possible, the Air Force wants to provide Airmen with increased flexibility and agility while also increasing our potential to retain their talents in the active duty force.



The decision to change the IDE/SDE assignment declination policy gives officers and their families added flexibility within the Air Force assignment system.

- The policy itself makes a distinction between operational and developmental assignments.
- Operational assignments- critical in meeting mission requirements and are essential.
- Development opportunities- designed to educate and professionally broaden individual officers.
- The IDE/SDE selection list is now posted to [myPers](#) and additional details regarding developmental education are available there as well.

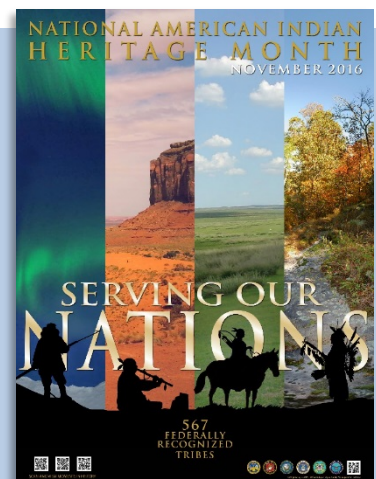
Air Force Personnel Center requests officers submit their declinations by Dec. 19, or as soon as they know they are unable to accept the assignment, to allow timely notification to alternate designates.

For more information about Air Force personnel programs, go to [myPers](#). Individuals who do not have a myPers account can request one by [following these instructions](#).

National American Indian Heritage Month

What began at the turn of the century as an effort to designate a day to recognize the significant contributions the first Americans made to the establishment and growth of the U.S., has resulted in a whole month being dedicated to that purpose. In 1990, President George H. W. Bush approved a joint resolution designating November 1990 "National American Indian Heritage Month."

- According to DoD statistics, in 2010, 1.7% of service members on active duty were of American Indian heritage while the U.S. census recorded nearly 1.4 percent American Indian—making it the highest per-capita commitment of any ethnic population to defend the nation.
- Today's Air Force is comprised of wingmen, leaders and warriors with heritages and skills as diverse as our nation. Our agility is derived from our inclusively empowered diversity
- For more information about the American Indian Heritage, visit <http://www.bia.gov/>.



► 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

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 Air National Guard 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.

Nov. 6, 1930 - [Edward V. Rickenbacker](#) received the Medal of Honor for his service in World War I. As a pilot with the 94th Aero Squadron, Capt. Rickenbacker became the leading American ace of the war with 24.33 aerial victories.

Nov. 7, 1967 - The last Atlas D missile in the Air Force inventory launched from Vandenberg Air Force Base, California.

Nov. 8, 1968 – Tactical Air Command received the first AC-119K, the latest in a series of multi-weapon attack aircraft.

Nov. 9, 1944 – [1st Lt. Donald J. Gott](#) and [2nd Lt. William E. Metzger's](#) B-17 received several flak hits while flying in formation. With only one engine operable, the pilots jettisoned the bombs and headed for Allied territory. The rest of the crew parachuted, leaving the pilots and the radio operator, who was too injured to jump, to attempt a crash landing. As Gott banked into a landing approach at about 100 feet, the fire reached the fuel tank and the bomber exploded and crashed, killing all three occupants. For their action, Gott and Metzger each posthumously received the Medal of Honor.

► TRENDING QUOTE

“We need to invest in our modernization programs without sacrificing our readiness to operate effectively today. We have to continue to repeat it to our Congress. This is not an either/or proposition. We need both readiness today, and we need to modernize for our future.”

Secretary of the Air Force Deborah Lee James
[addressing the 48th annual Airlift Tanker Association Convention](#)
October 28, Nashville, Tennessee.

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

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