

# Commander's Call Topics



Jan. 29, 2010

*"Cyber mission assurance is a top priority of the Air Force. The domain we are tasked to operate within touches every part of the Air Force and joint mission."*

- Maj. Gen. Richard E. Webber, the 24th Air Force commander, during remarks on the command achieving [initial operational capability](#)

## FROM AIR FORCE SENIOR LEADERS

### [SecAF unveils service's game plan in future security environment](#)

During his [keynote address](#) on air, space and cyberspace in the 21st century during the 38th Institute for Foreign Policy Analysis-Fletcher Conference on National Security Strategy and Policy, Air Force Secretary Michael Donley noted the service's challenge to "plan for uncertainty in a complex security environment," with a multi-faceted approach to supporting combatant commanders and national leadership. Gen. Norton Schwartz also spoke at the conference; see the Commander's Call Topics for [Jan. 22, 2010](#).

## ► CURRENT ISSUES

### [Pay, medical, family issues highlight budget request](#)

President Barack Obama will request increased funding for military pay, housing allowances, family support programs and care for wounded warriors as he recognizes the nation's responsibility to support its men and women in uniform and their families.

### [Cyber is the focus](#)

Gen. C. Robert Kehler, Air Force Space Command commander, spoke at the Defending America Cyberspace 2010 Symposium. He discussed the many changes in AFSPC including standing up 24th Air Force, an operational command responsible for cyberspace, and transferring the intercontinental ballistic missile mission to the Air Force's newest command, Global Strike Command.

## ► PERSONNEL ISSUES

### [Air Force returns enlisted high year of tenure to standards](#)

Air Force manpower and personnel officials announced a return of enlisted high year of tenure limits to their pre-2003 levels. The change will initially affect approximately 2,500 Airmen; 500 senior airmen, 400 technical sergeants, 1,200 master sergeants and 400 senior master sergeants. The HYT for senior master sergeant, master sergeant, technical sergeant and senior airman will return to 26, 24, 22 and 10 years, respectively. The HYT limits for both chief master sergeant (30 years) and staff sergeant (20 years) will remain the same since they were not raised in 2003.

### [Taking care of caregivers](#)

One plan that is required by all Air Force members with families is a family care plan that reasonably covers all situations, short and long term. Civilian and contractor personnel in emergency essential positions also are strongly encouraged to establish family care plans.

### [Call for warrior games coaches](#)

The Air Force team for the first Warrior Games needs coaches for shooting, swimming, archery, volleyball, cycling, track and field (discus, shot put) and basketball. For more information or to apply as a coach, contact Lieutenant McDaniels by Feb. 15 at 210-652-7021 or e-mail [hannah.mcdaniels@randolph.af.mil](mailto:hannah.mcdaniels@randolph.af.mil).

## **CIVILIAN**

### **[Air Force program develops senior civilian leaders](#)**

The Civilian Strategic Leader Program office will move the service toward a process of earlier identification of Air Force employees whose past performance and future potential indicate they will be the most competitive for leading the Air Force at the executive level.

## **FAMILY, HEALTH AND SAFETY**

### **['Tricare University' offers benefit education](#)**

Tricare University offers free online courses 24 hours a day, seven days a week, 365 days a year at [www.tricare.mil/tricareu](http://www.tricare.mil/tricareu).

### **[Chairman cites need for rapid health care solutions](#)**

Navy Adm. Mike Mullen, the chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, recently said Defense Department officials must work quickly to surmount a stigma that's preventing servicemembers from seeking help for the signature wounds of today's wars.

## **FINANCES AND EDUCATION**

### **[VA officials to begin recovery of GI Bill advance payments](#)**

Veterans Affairs Department officials are beginning the process of recovering advance payments made available during the fall 2009 semester to veterans and servicemembers who applied for education benefits. Notification letters will be sent explaining the repayment process.

### **[Military families gain access to free, online tutoring](#)**

The site -- <http://www.tutor.com/military> -- offers round-the-clock professional tutors who can assist with homework, studying, test preparation, resume writing and more. Active-duty servicemembers, Guard and Reserve members on active duty in a deployed status, DOD civilians in a deployed status and their dependents are eligible to participate. Along with test preparation, the site is open to students of any age, from kindergartners to high school seniors, for one-on-one help in math, science, social studies and English.

### **[Use caution when donating to relief efforts](#)**

The best way to provide immediate help is to donate money directly to established national relief organizations that have the experience and means to deliver aid. Be wary of charities with names that sound like familiar or nationally known organizations. Other tips include declining unsolicited e-mail, phone call or text requests for money and requests for personal or financial information. Don't give or send cash. For security and tax record purposes, contribute by check or credit card. Write the official name of the charity on your check.

### **[Deadline approaches for 2010 Scholarships for Military Children Program](#)**

Applications are available in commissaries worldwide and online through a link at [www.commissaries.com](http://www.commissaries.com), and directly at [www.militaryscholar.org](http://www.militaryscholar.org) and must be turned in to a commissary by close of business Feb. 17.

### **[Air Force Association scholarship and grant opportunities](#)**

AFA is an independent, nonprofit, civilian education organization promoting public understanding of aerospace power and the pivotal role it plays in the security of the nation. AFA has a variety of scholarships available for Airmen and their families. For more information, go to <http://www.afa.org/aef/aid/scholars.asp>.

## **RESOURCES**

### ***AF.mil***

<http://www.af.mil>

### ***Air Force Community***

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

**Air Force Highlights**

<http://www.afoutreach.af.mil/usafhighlights/index.asp>

**Military OneSource**

<http://www.militaryonesource.com/>

**Military HOMEFRONT**

<http://www.militaryhomefront.dod.mil/>

**Year of the Air Force Family**

<http://www.af.mil/yoaff/index.asp>  
[www.MyAirForceLife.com](http://www.MyAirForceLife.com)

**Air Force Personnel Center**

<http://ask.afpc.randolph.af.mil/>  
<http://www.afpc.randolph.af.mil/>

**Air Reserve Personnel Center**

<http://www.arpc.afrc.af.mil/>

**Department of Defense**

<http://www.defense.gov>

**Department of Defense News**

<http://www.defenselink.mil>

**TRICARE**

<http://www.tricare.mil>

**U.S. Government Web site**

<http://www.firstgov.gov/>

## **AIR FORCE HERITAGE TO HORIZONS**

February is National African American History Month, celebrating the contributions that African Americans have made to American history in their struggles for freedom and equality and deepening our understanding of our nation's history.

### **This Week in Air Force History**

**Jan. 29, 1979** – E-3A Sentry aircraft assume a continental air defense mission responsibility.

**Feb. 1, 1952** – The U.S. Air Force acquired its first general-purpose, high-speed digital computer, a vacuum-tube-based Univac I.

**Feb. 3, 1961** – Strategic Air Command initiated the Looking Glass airborne command post. Maintaining continuous 24-hour coverage in shifts, Looking Glass aircraft were equipped to communicate with the Joint Chiefs of Staff, any SAC base or any SAC aircraft.

**Feb. 3, 1995** – U.S. Air Force Lt. Col. Eileen M. Collins became the first woman space shuttle pilot. For more information on Air Force heritage, visit the Air Force Link heritage section at <http://www.af.mil/information/heritage>.

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