

Commander's Call Topics



June 4, 2010

"Our strategic environment, with all of its interconnectedness, must be examined broadly, and its challenges addressed holistically. In terms of Air Force energy, then, our efforts are no longer the exclusive purview of logisticians, engineers, and energy specialists. All Airmen—in operations, maintenance, and mission support; from the flightline to the hangar to the military personnel flight—must further realize the critical link between energy and our ability to continue making critical contributions to the Joint team." – Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. Norton Schwartz from his [remarks](#) to the USAF Energy Forum III

► CURRENT ISSUES

[Opinions matter in 'Don't Ask, Don't Tell' review](#)

Servicemembers' opinions are "absolutely critical" in implementing policy for a repeal of the law that bans gays and lesbians from openly serving in the military. *"Your view and opinion of (gays and lesbians serving openly) is absolutely critical to address those issues,"* said Navy Adm. Mike Mullen, the chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff.

[Gates addresses troops on 'don't ask, don't tell' repeal](#)

Secretary Gates recorded a special message that will be broadcast on the [American Forces Radio and Television Service](#) and the [Pentagon Channel](#) to speak directly to servicemembers and their families about the moves toward repeal of the law that bars gay men and lesbians from serving openly in the military.

[DOD certifies 6 programs under Nunn-McCurdy Law breaches](#)

Department of Defense officials have certified that six acquisition programs, including the F-35 Lightning II, should continue under Nunn-McCurdy legislation.

► PERSONNEL ISSUES

[Selective early retirement board to be held in July](#)

Air Force leaders will hold a selective early retirement board July 19 through 23 to consider select officers who must retire by Jan. 1, 2011, or upon retirement eligibility. Colonels and lieutenant colonels may avoid the board by submitting applications for voluntary retirement by June 28, and establishing a retirement date of May 1, 2011, or earlier. For more information, call the Total Force Service Center at 800-525-0102, or visit the [officer retirements Web page](#).

CIVILIAN

[Federal employees' same-sex domestic partners gain new benefits](#)

President Barack Obama has extended new benefits to same-sex domestic partners of federal employees, including those within the Defense Department. More information about the policy changes is available on the [OPM website](#).

[AFPC officials seek public service award nominations](#)

Awards and decorations officials at the Air Force Personnel Center are seeking nominations for the 2010 Government Employees Insurance Company's Public Service Awards. Six awards are presented to federal employees based on four categories: substance abuse prevention and treatment, fire prevention and safety, physical rehabilitation, and traffic safety and accident prevention. For more information, visit [AFPC's Web site](#) or call the Total Force Service Center at 800-525-0102.

FAMILY, HEALTH AND SAFETY

[Medal of Honor recipients encourage military members to seek help](#)

As part of their commitment to serve their country, more than 30 of the 91 living Medal of Honor recipients have joined in a public service campaign to encourage servicemembers to seek help for behavioral issues that are often the result of deployment and combat. The message is simple, "Don't let the enemy defeat you at home!"

RESOURCES

AF.mil

<http://www.af.mil>

Airman magazine

<http://www.airmanonline.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

Air Force Personnel Center

<http://gum.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

This Week in Air Force History

June 6, 1944 – Army Air Forces and Allied aircraft flew approximately 15,000 sorties in support of the D-Day invasion.

June 6, 1961 – Sgt. James Howell performed the first live supersonic seat ejection.

June 8, 1953 – At Luke Air Force Base, Ariz., the U.S. Air Force Thunderbirds, officially designated the 3600th Air Demonstration Flight, perform for the first time.

June 9, 1961– Delivery of the first C-135 Stratolifter jet cargo aircraft marked the beginning of modernization of Military Air Transport Service's former all propeller-driven fleet.

June 10, 1989 – Capt. Jacqueline S. Parker became the first female pilot to graduate from USAF Test Pilot School.

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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