

Commander's Call Topics



July 23, 2010

"Our Airmen today are absolutely focused on fighting our mission. I want our Airmen to know they are making a difference, a difference in the security of our nation. They are also making a difference in the quality of life for people in other nations as well." – Chief Master Sgt. of the Air Force James A. Roy during a recent [visit](#) to Grand Forks Air Force Base, N.D.

FROM AIR FORCE SENIOR LEADERS

[Air Force Facebook presence gets boost from a top spouse](#)

Mrs. Suzie Schwartz, the wife of Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. Norton Schwartz, has just gone live with her own page geared toward communicating with Air Force families. Her welcome message on the page encourages fans to "use this forum to communicate and meet other spouses on your base and around the world." Mrs. Schwartz's Facebook page can be viewed at <http://www.facebook.com/pages/Suzie-Schwartz/120997871253763?ref=ts>.

► PERSONNEL ISSUES

[AF Personnel Center news service keeps Airmen informed](#)

An electronic news service featuring the latest Air Force manpower, personnel and services information is available to help Airmen make informed decisions about their careers. To subscribe, visit the Air Force "[subscribe](#)" website and click the radio button next to "Manpower, Personnel, and Services News." Then, enter your e-mail address and name to complete the subscription form.

CIVILIAN

[Hiring authority expanded to certain cybersecurity jobs](#)

Air Force managers hiring civilian federal employees for certain cybersecurity positions have been authorized to use the streamlined Schedule A hiring authority to help expeditiously fill more than 680 positions. For more information, visit AFPC's [personnel services website](#), keyword "Cyber Schedule A." Air Force employees may call the 24-hour Total Force Service Center at 800-525-0102.

[Air Force Civilian Service website reveals depth, innovation to federal employment](#)

The [Air Force Civilian Service](#) website contains practical information for those interested in applying for a federal job within the Air Force Civilian Service, including various hiring authorities, base locations, career field descriptions, employee benefits and application procedures.

FAMILY, HEALTH AND SAFETY

[Spouse jobs program to relaunch in October](#)

The Military Spouse Career Advancement Accounts program will resume Oct. 25, but with some significant changes to the popular spouse employment program. Changes include a reduction in the amount of financial aid, a change in the population eligible to receive that aid -- from all military spouses to just spouses of junior servicemembers -- and more robust counseling services.

FINANCES AND EDUCATION

[Air Combat Command promotes CCAF degree](#)

Although having a Community College of the Air Force degree is important for all Airmen, ACC is encouraging its technical sergeants to achieve this educational goal. For NCOs and career progression, a CCAF degree is a requirement for senior rater endorsement, and that is a key factor and a weighted factor on the senior master sergeant promotion board. To be leaders who lead by example, Airmen should have a CCAF degree. That education can help Airmen achieve a special unit job or further their Air Force career.

[Post-9/11 GI Bill benefits key to recruiting and retention](#)

Proposed changes to the [Post-9/11 GI Bill](#) would improve military readiness. These changes would include new rules for entitlement, modifications of the amount and types of assistance covered, methods of education payment and transferring unused benefits. The proposed bill would also make improvements in other Veterans Affairs Department education programs and clarify eligibility for Reserve component troops.

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

July 26, 1947 – President Harry S. Truman signed the Armed Forces Unification Act, creating the Department of the Air Force, co-equal with the Army and Navy departments.

July 27, 1953 – The Korean War armistice was signed at Panmunjan, South Korea.

July 27, 1972 – The F-15 Eagle made its initial flight.

July 28, 1976 – Two world records for speed were set for the SR-71A "Blackbird" reconnaissance aircraft at Beale AFB, Calif., by Air Force pilots. Capt. Eldon W. Joersz set the record over a straight course (2,193.16 mph). Maj. Adolphus H. Bledsoe set the record over a closed circuit (2,092.294 mph).

For more information on Air Force heritage, visit the Air Force Link heritage section at <http://www.af.mil/information/heritage>.

The Defense Media Activity-San Antonio produces Commander's Call Topics weekly. For questions or comments about this or any other DMA-SA product, send e-mail to afproducts@dma.mil. To subscribe to Air Force news and information products online, go to www.af.mil/information/subscribe.