

# Commander's Call Topics



Oct. 1, 2010

*"The Air Force is engaged in a long-term effort to improve our nation's energy security through energy efficiency and conservation. We have made solid progress in these areas over the past year, but our work is far from done. In order to meet our strategic energy goals, we must continue to instill energy efficiency and conservation into our daily routines within our aviation and our installation communities."*

– Secretary of the Air Force Michael Donley and Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. Norton Schwartz from their [Letter to Airmen: Energy Awareness](#)

## ► PERSONNEL ISSUES

### [Uniform phaseout dates draw near](#)

With many phaseout and mandatory wear dates approaching, the look of Air Force uniforms will change slightly over the next year. For detailed information, visit the [Air Force uniform website](#).

### [Online development plan improving total force career roadmaps](#)

The web-based career tool for total force Airmen, known as My Development Plan, is undergoing changes aimed at positively affecting the Air Force and its members' futures. MyDP is geared to help users make informed decisions about their career with information available at one site. Key changes will be found with the relocation of "career impacting" applications to the MyDP application.

### [Officials implement new training model](#)

To provide Airmen with the most realistic training environment away from the battle space, Air Force leaders have implemented a new vision and governance structure for Modeling and Simulation. A revision of Air Force Policy Directive 16-10 is in progress. The vision, together with the updated AFPD and subordinate Air Force instructions, will enhance the Air Force's ability to meet new challenges and assess complexities of a changing battle space.

## FAMILY, HEALTH AND SAFETY

### [TRICARE meets or exceeds most new health provisions](#)

TRICARE already meets or exceeds most of the new health care provisions in accordance with the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act that took effect Sept. 23. One provision under PPACA that is not already addressed in the [TRICARE](#) entitlement is coverage for dependents up to the age of 26. Bills pending in the Senate and House of Representatives would extend dependent medical coverage up to age 26.

### [Fire Prevention Week focuses on smoke alarms](#)

"Smoke Alarms: A Sound You Can Live With!" is the theme for Fire Prevention Week, Oct. 3 through 9. Smoke alarms should be installed on every level of the home and should be tested monthly. For more information, visit the [National Fire Protection Association](#) website.

## RESOURCES

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

<http://www.af.mil>

### ***Airman magazine***

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

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

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

### ***Air Force Outreach***

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

**Military OneSource**

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

**Military HOMEFRONT**

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

**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/>

**Employment Opportunities**

[www.usajobs.com](http://www.usajobs.com)

[www.nafjobs.org](http://www.nafjobs.org)

## **AIR FORCE HERITAGE TO HORIZONS**

**October is Domestic Violence Awareness Month:** The National Domestic Violence Hotline provides a free and confidential resource to those who are abused or to friends and family who are concerned that a loved one is being abused: 1-800-799-SAFE (7233), or visit [www.ndvh.org](http://www.ndvh.org). For domestic violence awareness materials and guides, visit the [Military HOMEFRONT](#) website.

**October is Energy Awareness Month:** The Air Force theme is "A New Culture: Energy as an Operations Enabler"

**Hispanic Heritage Month continues through October 15:** The nation observes Hispanic Heritage Month in honor of the many contributions made by the Hispanic community to the United States.

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

**Oct. 1, 1958** – NASA established to control nonmilitary scientific space projects.

**Oct. 1, 1959** – The USAF Aerospace Medical Center activated at Brooks AFB, Texas, absorbing the former School of Aviation Medicine, the USAF Hospital at Lackland AFB, Texas, and other facilities

**Oct. 1, 1979** – First phase of Space Defense Operations Center began limited operations in Cheyenne Mountain Complex, Colo., sharing computer terminals and communications with Air Defense Command Intelligence Watch.

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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