

Commander's Call Topics



October 9, 2014

**“The strength of a nation
derives from the integrity of the home.”**

*Confucius
(551 BCE – 479 BCE)
Chinese teacher, editor, politician and philosopher*

Today is
[National Depression Screening Day.](#)
There's a special, confidential online
[screening tool](#)
[for members of the military](#)
[and their families.](#)

Domestic Violence Knows No Boundaries

Quick! What's the common element linking the following? 1) increased incidence of health problems among children; 2) the third-leading cause of homelessness among families; 3) annual costs upwards of \$37 billion in law enforcement, legal work, medical and mental health treatment and lost productivity? Answer: The root cause of each is domestic/partner violence.

According to [Safe Horizon](#), the nation's leading victim assistance organization that helps victims and their families heal and rebuild their lives by providing practical services, more than 60 percent of domestic/partner violence incidents occur at home, and they're almost never reported. Underreporting guarantees that prevention remains elusive.

Just as in the civilian arena, statistics for victims of domestic violence among Air Force personnel are difficult to find. What little is known about the victims is that one in four women is a victim of domestic/partner violence in her lifetime, and one in seven men is victimized. At each base in the Family Advocacy Office there are victim advocates specifically trained to assist those affected by domestic abuse. Advocates offer clarity, simplicity and directness at an especially confusing and personally fragmented time.

There *is* hope – and help – to support the Family Advocacy Offices and other victims' assistance programs. This month [Military OneSource is working to raise awareness](#) of domestic violence and encouraging victims to get help. [A special section on nurturing healthy relationships](#), describes the safe, respectful and affirming aspects of a positive relationship. The Centers for Disease Control has a focused, step-by-step approach to prevention through community leadership called DELTA, an acronym that comes from [Domestic Violence Prevention Enhancement and Leadership Through Alliances](#). The program is rooted in the Family Violence Prevention Services Act (reauthorized in 2010), and it supports efforts to prevent intimate partner violence at the individual, relationship, community and societal levels. Additionally, [The National Coalition Against Domestic Violence](#) offers resources and directories in accessing hope and help at over 3,000 domestic shelters nationwide.

Domestic/partner violence is an equal opportunity scourge. It crosses all social, ethnic, sexual orientation, financial and educational levels, and the dirty little secret is that “not getting involved” is just as ubiquitous and condoned. Most domestic violence incidents are *never* reported or are underreported as an “altercation,” or “disagreement” or “squabble.” It's time to start the conversation, to speak up, to stand out, to call it what it is, and to be engaged in the solution.

*Senior Airman Renée Carberry
Martha J. Lockwood*

► 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

Oct. 9, 1999 - The final SR-71 Blackbird flight occurred during the Edwards AFB, Calif., Open House and Air Show. NASA Dryden Flight Research Center pilot Rogers Smith and flight engineer Marta Bohn-Meyer flew the aircraft to Mach 3.21 at 80,100 feet.

Oct. 10, 1950 - The U.S. Air Force activated the first Air National Guard units to support the Korean War. The U.S. eventually mobilized 66 flying units and 45,000 guardsmen into federal service.

Oct. 11, 1968 - Apollo VII, the first manned mission in the lunar landing program launched from Kennedy Space Center Complex 34 on a Saturn IV booster.

Oct. 12, 1977 - The Air Force's first class of five women navigators graduated. Three were assigned to MAC aircrews.

Oct. 13, 1952 - SAC submitted a requirement for an air-launched decoy missile to defeat an enemy's radar defenses. This action led to the development of the GAM-72A Quail missile.

Oct. 14, 1940 - Maj. Reuben Moffat, the 33rd Pursuit Group Commander, became the first Army Air Corps pilot to fly an aircraft off a carrier. He flew his Curtiss P-40 off the USS Wasp.

Oct. 15, 1997 - Retired Brig. Gen. Charles "Chuck" Yeager broke the sound barrier again in front of a crowd of more than 5,000 people at Edwards AFB to commemorate the 50th Anniversary of his historic supersonic flight.

Recent promotion? Change of command? Increased number of flight hours?

There are many reasons to update a biography!

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► CURRENT ISSUES

[CSAF to Academy: 'Adapting to change key to success'](#)

Changes in technology, demographics and ideology are hallmarks of today's world, and adaptation assures relevance.

► PERSONNEL ISSUES

[AF to implement TDY policy changes](#)

A change in reimbursable expenses, effective Oct. 1, and a change in long-term TDY per diem expenses, which will take effect Nov. 1, will save money, simplify policy and align DOD with industry best practices.

► ENVIRONMENT, SPACE, TECHNOLOGY

[Hackathon to help solve real-world problems](#)

Challenging participants to create solutions that could directly impact the warfighter, The Air Force Research Laboratory at Wright-Patterson AFB is co-hosting LabHack, a 26-hour-long coding competition among coders from the Air Force, academia and private industry.

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

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