

Commander's Call Topics



Aug. 13, 2015

"An army to be useful must be a unit, and out of this has grown the saying ... that an army with an inefficient commander was better than one with two able heads."

*William Tecumseh Sherman (1820-1891)
American Soldier, businessman, educator and author*

Today is national
Tell a Joke Day.
A second lieutenant and a chief
master sergeant walk into a bar ...

SARCs hone skills at annual refresher course

The Air Force Sexual Assault Prevention and Response office recently concluded a five-day annual refresher course for nearly 130 Air Force sexual assault response coordinators at the National Conference Center in Leesburg, Virginia, Aug. 3 through 7. The SARCs participated in a variety of lessons on prevention, policy, training and leadership interaction designed to reinforce their knowledge and skills.

"SARCs are the backbone of the Air Force's Sexual Assault Prevention and Response Program," said Maj. Gen. Gina Grosso, Air Force SAPR director. "This annual training is our opportunity to ensure they have the latest information on policies and procedures, and get their feedback on what's working, what isn't and how we can continue to improve. Their enthusiasm for learning and dedication to the Airmen they support is truly inspiring."

The SARCs and deputy SARCs across the Air Force serve as trusted agents for Airmen in crisis at 113 bases around the world, said Maj. Scott Crum, Air Force SAPR deputy operations chief.

"Although our SARCs vary greatly in rank and experience, from new lieutenants to experienced civil servants, they must all earn the trust and confidence of the Airmen they serve," Crum said. "This refresher training is as critical to their professional development as professional military education is to our force."

Although some of the material was familiar to the SARCs from their initial certification course, the continued education helps them hone their skills and motivates them to use newly learned skills," said Barry Waite, the Ira C. Eaker Center for Professional Development's chief of workforce diversity and civilian professional development at Maxwell Air Force Base, Alabama.

Waite taught a two-hour block on communicating with leadership at all levels. One of the goals of the lesson was to understand and identify, not only their own personality, but co-workers' and leaderships' personalities as well.

"I loved his lesson and the interactive way it's delivered," said 1st Lt. Anna Gault, deputy SARC at Aviano Air Base, Italy. "The SAPR program has a spotlight on it, and we work directly for the vice wing commander, so we need to understand how to interact with our leadership because if we aren't communicating, we could end up with a negative outcome."

Another benefit of the continuing education course is networking with other SARCs in the field, said Ron Nelson, Air Mobility Command SAPR program manager. Building networks is tremendously important at these annual refresher events, Nelson said.

When SARCs leave the initial training course at Maxwell AFB, they all have the same basic skill set, but as they build from their experiences they can share with other SARCs or lean on SARCs from other bases who have already handled similar circumstances.

"Our policies and procedures are constantly evolving as we learn more about this crime and how to prevent and respond to it," Grosso said. "This annual training is a vital opportunity to bring all our SARCs together to give them the best tools and training possible to serve our Airmen."

► 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](#)

► CURRENT ISSUES

[F-16 crashes in Bavaria](#)

A U.S. Air Force F-16 Fighting Falcon assigned to the 480th Fighter Squadron from Spangdahlem Air Base, Germany, crashed Aug. 11.

[Air Force welcomes new vice chief of staff](#)

The Air Force welcomed an Airman to the rank of four-star general and announced the appointment of the new Air Force vice chief of staff during a ceremony at Joint Base Anacostia-Bolling, Washington, D.C., Aug. 6.

[Air Force vice chief of staff retires with nearly 44 years of service](#)

Airmen said goodbye and good luck to the Air Force vice chief of staff during his retirement ceremony on Joint Base Andrews, Maryland, Aug. 7.

► SCIENCE, SPACE AND TECHNOLOGY

[Air Force upgrades 100-year-old technology](#)

A new simulator will allow students to begin spatial disorientation training before they even enter the aircraft.

► THIS WEEK IN AIR FORCE HISTORY

Aug. 13, 1952 – Air Force officials ordered the Boeing B-52 Stratofortress, an eight-jet heavy bomber, into full-scale production.

Aug 14, 1992 - U.S. military transports began supporting the multinational UN relief effort Operation Provide Relief, which lasted through Feb. 28, 1993. U.S. airlifters moved more than 23,000 tons of food, water, medicine and other relief supplies to Somalia. The supplies helped thousands of starving refugees who suffered from a prolonged drought and civil war.

Aug. 15, 1929 - Lieutenants Nicholas B. Mamer and Arthur Walker flew the Buhl Sesquiplane, named the Spokane Sun God, with a Wright Whirlwind engine, from Spokane, Washington, to the East Coast and back. They set a nonstop distance record of 7,200 miles by refueling inflight 11 times..

Aug. 16, 2002 - Air Force officials extended the mobilization of more than 14,000 citizen Airmen (members of the Air National Guard and Air Force Reserve), mostly security forces, into a second year of the Global War on Terror.

Aug. 17, 1963 - A ferry from Okinawa, Japan, sank in the Ryukyu Islands with 261 people aboard. Pacific Air Forces rescue units from Naha Air Base, Japan, and other military units, responded and rescued 235 people from the sea.

Aug. 18, 1910 – Army Cpl. Glen Madole and Oliver G. Simmons, the Army's first civilian aircraft mechanic, added wheels to Signal Corps Airplane No. 1 at Fort Sam Houston, Texas. This effort produced tricycle landing gear that eliminated the need for launching rails and catapults.

Aug. 19, 1940 – The North American B-25 Mitchell bomber, Named for famed airpower pioneer Brigadier General William “Billy” Mitchell, first flew.

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

The Defense Media Activity produces **Commander's Call Topics** weekly. For questions or comments about this, or any other DMA product, send an e-mail to afproducts@dma.mil.

Subscribe to AF news and information products, go to <https://public.govdelivery.com/accounts/USDODAF/subscriber/new>